

# mālamalama

THE LIGHT OF KNOWLEDGE

The magazine of the University of Hawai'i System

Volume 32 Number 3, September 2007

## **Spiritually environmental**

### **Inside:**

A dragon invasion  
Ho'olaule'a time

Heart sensing radar  
News from the garden







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## Aloha

The fall 2007 semester marks the 100th time the University of Hawai'i has begun an academic year. This centennial class began the term last month with high hopes and great aspirations, just as more than a million alumni have done before them. Fulfilling those hopes and aspirations is my passion and my mission and the focus of our remarkable faculty and dedicated staff, several of whom are profiled in this issue. To insure that we have the resources to do so, we created the University of Hawai'i Centennial Campaign. The campaign just concluded its leadership phase and had its public launch at a memorable event Aug. 18 on the slopes of Diamond Head at the former Cannon Club site.



I am delighted to report that our alumni and friends have already given more than \$180 million to the University of Hawai'i. Our goal is \$250 million before the campaign concludes in June 2009, so we are well on our way. These gifts will have lasting impact on every campus and many programs throughout the UH System. The Centennial Campaign is centered on five key priorities—

**Advancing Academic Excellence** through funding for endowed chairs and professorships, graduate fellowships and research.

**Enhancing the Student Experience** via endowed scholarships and funding for undergraduate research, student and faculty exchange and campus life programs and facilities.

**Fulfilling our Research Mission** by advancing areas of globally recognized research strength, creating and developing new sectors of the economy and building on and sustaining Hawai'i's natural advantages.

**Engaging our Community** through support for the arts and athletics and by providing opportunities for personal growth and lifelong learning.

**Improving our Facilities**, creating healthy, resource-efficient and sustainable campus environments that enhance the work and well-being of our students, faculty and community members.

Private gifts, particularly those put into the endowment, will work for the university for our next 100 years and beyond. That is, indeed, a present appropriate for this very special birthday. If you've already contributed to the Centennial Campaign, mahalo nui loa; if you haven't, please consider a gift to help the next million UH students, and the next.

With best wishes,

David McClain

President, University of Hawai'i



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**On the cover:** At O'ahu's Hawai'i Nature Center, UH Mānoa ecological anthropology graduate Jamie Nakama helps children connect with the environment and, through it, with each other.

**Correction:** The May 2007 issue failed to credit Leigh Nojima (BA '04 Mānoa) as a contributing alumni editor

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## Preparing for disaster on campus and overseas

The university successfully tested a new automated system in late April to provide emergency phone and email notification to UH emergency coordinators and administrators. The NTI Group Connect-ED system augments the university's email broadcast, which can distribute urgent or informational messages to all UH student and employee email accounts. The university is also exploring text messaging to student mobile phones. No single approach can address all emergencies, says Vice President for Information Technology David Lassner, noting that the power outage following October's earthquake affected many Hawai'i email and phone service providers. So on-campus warning sirens and PA systems are also being considered.

Meanwhile, UH and the federal Pacific Disaster Center have signed an agreement with Busan Metropolitan City and Pukyong National University to enhance the Korean city's disaster management capabilities, and the Pacific Emergency Management Preparedness and Response Information and Training Services at Mānoa, in partnership with Yale University, launched a series of web-based courses to help public health professionals in Hawai'i, California and the U.S.-affiliated Pacific Islands prepare for potential public health threats. Information at [www.emprints.hawaii.edu](http://www.emprints.hawaii.edu).



## New buildings go green, get a view

UH Hilo's Student Life Center is slated to open in 2008 with fitness facilities, a juice bar, an Olympic-size pool and design elements aimed at earning gold certification in Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design standards developed by the U.S. Green Building Council. The building design takes advantage of natural light while deflecting heat from the sun's rays and uses energy-saving dehumidifiers and light controls. Builders are recycling to divert most leftover construction materials from the waste stream.

UH West O'ahu is also going green, with a \$100,000 grant from The Kresge Foundation to incorporate environmentally sustainable features in design of the new campus at Kapolei. Meanwhile, UHWO officials have secured space for evening classes at Island Pacific Academy to accommodate this fall's addition of freshmen and sophomore students until the new campus is completed in fall 2009.

In other facilities news, a working restaurant is planned at the scenic site of the old Canon Club on O'ahu's Diamond Head. It will provide hands-on training for a bachelor's program in culinary management offered by Kapi'olani CC and UH West O'ahu and short-term courses for working chefs and the public. Honolulu architects Ferraro Choy and Associates are designing the building. Private funds are being sought for construction as part of the UH Foundation's Centennial Campaign.

And on the Big Island, construction has begun for a new UH Hilo Physical Science Building. The 16,500-square-foot facility will house physics, astronomy and chemistry programs with classrooms, labs, faculty offices and a 130-seat auditorium.



Jazzed up: Hill, Barich, Mergens

## Jazz group a winner in Texas

The UH Mānoa Jazz Ensemble received superior ratings from adjudicators at the North Texas Jazz Festival in March. The group was one of only 12 university ensembles invited to perform, and the only one to receive a standing ovation. Alto saxophonist Aaron Hill, a master's candidate in musicology, and tenor saxophonist David Mergens, a history major, received Outstanding Soloist certificates. Bryce Barich, who earned his bachelor's in business administration in May, won the Outstanding Lead Trumpet award.

Since the 1990s, Mānoa's jazz ensemble program has experienced dramatic increases in enrollment as high school band directors who are UH alumni encourage their students to get involved. The ensemble performs on Nov. 17 at the Barbara Smith Gamelan Courtyard in the Music Department complex at Mānoa. For details, more about the ensembles and downloadable MP3 music clips from their performances, visit <http://jazz.hawaii.edu>.

## Social norms grant to tackle underage drinking

UH Mānoa will use a \$250,000 grant from Anheuser-Busch Companies to expand the Mānoa Alcohol Project over the next four years. The project seeks to reduce underage drinking among freshmen in UH dorms through a social norms approach. Social norms projects encourage positive behavior change by communicating the responsible behavior of the vast majority of students.





## 2007 Regents' Medals awarded

**A**mong the awards presented during the centennial UH System awards convocation Sept. 5 were the following:

### Excellence in Teaching

**John Barkai**, professor of law, Mānoa

**Maria Fabro**, instructor in nursing, Kaua'i CC

**Cynthia Franklin**, professor of English, Mānoa

**Kathleen French**, instructor in social science, Windward CC

**Colette Higgins**, associate professor of arts and humanities, Kapi'olani CC

**Kathy Hill**, professor of accounting, Leeward CC

**Donnalyn Kalei**, instructor in administration of justice, Hawai'i CC

**Femar Lee**, assistant professor of developmental studies (mathematics), Honolulu CC

**Jill Omori**, assistant professor of family medicine and community health, Mānoa

**Lorelle Ann Peros**, assistant professor and chair in business and hospitality, Maui CC

**Shirley Yamashita**, specialist in educational technology, Mānoa

### Excellence in Research

**Robert Bidigare**, professor of oceanography, Mānoa

**Ralf Kaiser**, professor of chemistry, Mānoa

**Michael Liu**, associate astronomer, Mānoa

## Students earn kudos systemwide

**U**H Army ROTC Cadet **David Song** was among 55 ROTC graduates from across the nation commissioned by President Bush during a White House ceremony in May. Song isn't your typical cadet. The son of Korean immigrants who worked 14-hour days in the family's Doylestown, Pa. produce market, he completed a combat tour in Afghanistan as an enlisted soldier on a civil affairs team before choosing UH ROTC over officer candidate school. He was commissioned as an Army second lieutenant.

**Maui CC journalism student Jessica "Mira" Allen** was one of five students in the nation awarded the Howard R. Swearer Student Humanitarian Award from Campus Compact in June. News editor of the campus newspaper *Ho'oulu* and vice president of the Phi Theta Kappa honor society, Allen undertook a language learning exchange and other service learning projects and helped fellow students secure scholarships.



Jessica "Mira" Allen

**Six Academy for Creative Media students** were invited to screen their films at the Shanghai International Film Festival in June. Jay Hubert's *Dao* earlier won top college prize at the Houston International WorldFest.

**Kapi'olani CC's culinary team** received the silver medal in the American Culinary Federation's 2007 Western Regional Competition.

**UH Mānoa fine arts major Ashley Layfield** was named Miss Hawai'i. The Castle High School graduate performed a jazz dance to "One Night Only."

**Two Leeward CC student teams** took top college honors in the WorldQuest competition sponsored by the Pacific Asian Affairs Council. The competition tested participants' knowledge of current events, famous women in history, geography of Africa and other topics.

## Maui awards first bachelor's, campuses launch new degrees

**M**aui Community College awarded its first bachelor's degree in May—a bachelor of applied science in applied business and information technology—to husband and wife Ryan and Krissy Garcia and Sunny Cabello. The Garcias, who met while earning their associate degrees at Maui, plan to use the business plan they developed as part



ABIT graduates Cabello, left, and Garcias

of ABIT program to expand their computer repair business. Cabello, who gave birth during her first year of studies, is pursuing a master's degree in educational technology through the UH Center on Maui located at the community college campus.

New degree programs were launched at two UH campuses this fall—a BS in criminal justice at Windward CC through a partnership with Chaminade University and a BA in women's studies at UH Mānoa. (Previous women's studies majors received their bachelor's degrees in liberal arts or interdisciplinary studies.) UH Hilo will offer a BBA in accounting beginning fall 2008

## Medical school starts perinatal clinic, expands homeless outreach

The medical school has launched a state-funded program to provide prenatal care for pregnant women who abuse drugs. Physician Tricia Wright, an assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, and a staff of three provide perinatal classes, nutritional advice, group therapy and case management on the grounds of the Salvation Army Family Treatment Center in Kaimukī. As many as one in eight island women use “ice” or crystal methamphetamine during their pregnancies, says Wright. She hopes the clinic can serve as a model for community health centers.

On the volunteer front, students and staff involved in the Homeless Outreach and Medical Education project have extended their services through a new mobile clinic. With a donated HandiVan and community support, they have added a free weekly afternoon clinic at the Wai‘anae Transitional Shelter to their weekly evening at the Kaka‘ako Transitional Shelter.



## School of Hawaiian Knowledge established at Mānoa

The Board of Regents established Hawai‘inuiākea School of Hawaiian Knowledge at UH Mānoa effective July 1. The school unites the Kamakakūokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies, Kawaihuelani Hawaiian Language Program and Ka Papa Lo‘i o Kanewai Hawaiian cultural garden under one administrative parent but doesn’t affect the degrees offered—BA’s and MA’s in both Hawaiian and Hawaiian studies. Noting that Hawaiian Studies 107 is the campus’s most heavily enrolled course, officials say the move further promotes the study of Hawaiian language and culture. The shift does necessitate renaming of the remaining programs as the School of Pacific and Asian Studies and the Department of Indo-Pacific Languages and Literature.



It’s a college reunion for *Ka Leo o Hawai‘i* cartoonists Deb Aoki and Jon Murakami. Their joint compilation from Bento Box Press revives campus life circa 1987–93 via a cast of students that include a veggie hippie chick grad student, mystified mainlander and happy-go-lucky plate-lunch grinder (Aoki’s “Slice o’ Life”) and tolerant liberal arts major, nerdy genius inventor and roommate from hell (Murakami’s “The University of Diverse City”).

“Deb has an uncanny knack of capturing idiosyncrasies based on her pet peeves and shrewd observations that most people can relate to,” writes Murakami in the forward. From her home in Emeryville, Calif., Aoki continues her observations of Hawai‘i life in “Bento Box” for the *Honolulu Advertiser*. Selections from the first decade are now available as Deb Aoki’s *Bento Box*, another book from Bento Box Press. She is also the manga (japanese comics) guide for the newly launched <http://manga.about.com> and a senior content strategist for eBay, where she is helping redesign buyer side webpages.

“Jon’s just Jon: a local guy from Pearl City who draws hilarious cartoons,” Aoki says in her forward to his half of the book. Murakami has illustrated books from a piano performance manual by retired Mānoa Professor of Music Peter Coraggio to *The Original Poi Cats on O‘ahu* written by UH alumna Genevieve Suzuki. His artwork appears on Maile Way Products’ “Local Kine” greeting cards produced by fellow alumni Gayle Machida and Paul Isono, and he continues to draw strips—“Generation Gap” for *The Hawai‘i Herald*, “Calabash” for the *Honolulu Star-Bulletin* and “Online Aloha” for the Time-Warner Oceanic Roadrunner website [www.aroundhawaii.com](http://www.aroundhawaii.com).

## Education college earns best practices in distance education distinction

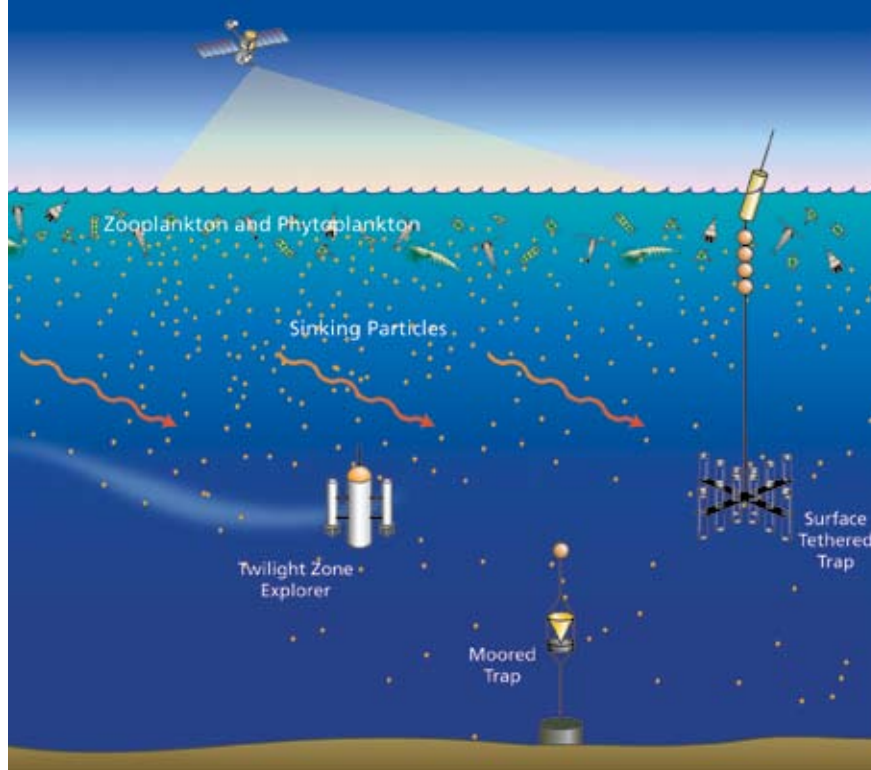
UH Mānoa’s College of Education received the U.S. Distance Learning Association’s 21st Century Award for Best Practices in Distance Learning. Since 1991, the college has used interactive TV, Internet and multimedia technologies to provide or augment a variety of teacher training and credentialing, special education, administration and counseling programs statewide.

## Iron meteorites shed light on early planet formation

New information about iron meteorites suggests planetary embryos formed within 1 million years after the birth of the solar system. Collisions between these protoplanets beginning 4.5 billion years ago created the rocky planets. Mānoa Planetary Scientist Edward Scott and colleagues from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, believe many iron meteorites were created when protoplanets with still molten cores broke apart in glancing collisions early in solar system history. Previous theories held that these meteorites cooled in smaller asteroids that collided and broke up much later. New studies showing that iron meteorites from the same source cooled at diverse rates suggest that the rocky silicate mantles were lost prior to cooling. Writing in the April 19 issue of *Nature*, the scientists propose that iron meteorites came from protoplanets and predate formation of the unmelted meteorites called chondrites, thus providing evidence that protoplanets were abundant in the early asteroid belt. More on iron meteorites at [www.psr.d.hawaii.edu/April07/irons.html](http://www.psr.d.hawaii.edu/April07/irons.html).

## Egypt addresses modern hepatitis plague

Egypt has the world's highest prevalence rates of hepatitis C—with up to 18 percent of the population in rural areas infected. Traced to a mass injection treatment campaign to counter a blood-borne parasite in decades past, the infectious disease causes liver damage. The hepatitis C virus presents a challenge comparable to HIV for its high replication and mutation rate, F. DeWolfe Miller, UH Mānoa public health professor, told colleagues at the annual American University in Cairo Research Conference in April. Miller co-discovered the epidemic in the early 1980s. He commended Egyptian health officials for steps taken since to make vaccines and blood transfusions safer and a public health campaign aimed at reducing prevalence below 5 percent.



## Marine snow in the twilight zone affects sinking CO<sub>2</sub>

An ocean region known as the twilight zone lies 100–1,000 meter below the surface, where it receives some light, but not enough to sustain photosynthesis. This zone acts as a gate, controlling the extent to which atmospheric carbon dioxide reaches the deep ocean. Carbon dioxide taken up by marine plankton at the ocean surface sinks into the region as marine snow, particles of dead or excreted organic matter that provide food for deep-dwelling species.

Scientists thought this sinking process might provide a storage mechanism for excess greenhouse gas, but a National Science Foundation-funded project called VERTIGO, for Vertical Transport in the Global Ocean, has found that carbon dioxide is sometimes consumed by animals within the twilight zone and returned to the atmosphere. In the cover article of the April 27 issue of *Science*, the VERTIGO team, which includes Mānoa Professors Robert Bidigare and David Karl, reports that only half the carbon at the surface near Japan and a mere fifth off Hawai'i made it through the twilight zone. The team plans further cruises to explore the regional differences and better understand the twilight zone and the role it might play in climate change.

## Grant funding doubles over five years

Hawai'i lead the nation in growth of federally funded research during the first part of the decade—doubling from \$81 million in 2000 to \$169 million in 2004, according to a new National Science Foundation report. Another NSF study ranked Hawai'i second in growth in private industry research, nearly doubling to \$21 million during the same period. UH officials note that many grants address local issues, including these recent awards:

- \* \$11.5 million for a five-year cardiovascular disease project
- \* \$3.3 million from Japanese and U.S. agencies to study Pacific climate variability
- \* \$450,000 to create a chamber to evaluate the impact of windblown debris on safe rooms and structural components
- \* \$449,000 to assess the chronic effects of discharge of treated sewage on marine communities and sediments
- \* \$398,000 to evaluate the effectiveness of restricted fishing areas in the main Hawaiian islands



## Plants and plant-like bacteria produce fuel

Using a process akin to photosynthesis, a UH researcher is producing ethanol fuel from cyanobacteria, the scummy pond organism once thought to be blue-green algae. In Mānoa Assistant Professor of Molecular Bioscience and Bioengineering Pengcheng Fu's patented photobioreactor process, genetically modified cyanobacteria use sunlight to convert carbon dioxide into ethanol. The process doesn't require the time or energy input needed to grow crops such as corn or sugarcane for conversion to fuel. Intent on building a full scale ethanol plant, Fu continues to seek more effective species of the chlorophyll-containing bacteria. He is also working with NASA on the organism's potential as a fuel producer in space colonies on the moon or Mars.

Meanwhile, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources colleagues are exploring plants that could be a source for biodiesel production. Working with a colleague at the University of Guam, soil scientists Goro Uehara, Robert Paull and Richard Ogoshi are studying *Jatropha curcas*, or white physic nut, a leafy, fast growing, drought resistant tree that grows well on marginal lands. They hope to identify a high yielding, nontoxic *Jatropha* species whose seeds could be used as animal feed once the oil is extracted. The project is funded by the Agricultural Development in the American Pacific project.

## Scientists on hand for volcanic mudflow in New Zealand

On Christmas Eve 1953, a sudden mudflow on New Zealand's Mount Ruapehu destroyed Tangiwai Bridge. Minutes later, an oncoming train plunged into the turbulent deluge and 151 people died. During spring break 2007, another flow plowed down the same mountain. A day later, UH graduate students arrived; their observations contributed to an ongoing study that could help save countless lives.

Lahars are volcanic mudflows composed of water, pyroclastic material and other sediment triggered by rapidly melting snow or glaciers or the breakout of a volcanic lake. Traveling with great speed and mass, they cause catastrophic destruction along their path, often down a river valley. Volcanoes where lahars are a threat include Mount Rainier in Washington state and Galunggung in Indonesia.

The March 18 breakout from Ruapehu's Crater Lake was long predicted but earlier than expected. In anticipation, New Zealand scientists had installed an unprecedented number of instruments in the lahar's pathway. Mānoa volcanologists Sarah Fagents and Bruce Houghton joined them in a pre-event assessment of the channel conditions just 2–3 days before intense rain and increased seepage caused the lake bank to collapse, sending millions of gallons of water tearing down the valley. The next day, they were back with the students to examine the broad devastated area, now covered in a veneer of mud and boulders. Their observations, together with data from the New Zealand instrumentation, will be used to test Fagents' computer simulations of lahar development and flow.

"Our intent is to adapt this model to account for different lahar triggering mechanisms and for different locations to make it more widely applicable," says Fagents. The goal is to provide a hazard assessment tool for future lahars in populated areas.

—Tara Hicks Johnson



## New research on diet

Among recent research findings on diet and health are these UH reports:

- \* There is a lack of data to support the popular notion that eating fish, with its highly touted omega-3 fatty acids, is beneficial in and of itself. In the May 1 issue of the *American Journal of Cardiology*, Mānoa Associate Professor of Public Health Sciences Claudio Nigg and mainland colleagues report that fish eaters tend to be healthier because they also consume more fruits, vegetables and lentils and less red meat than non-fish-eaters.
- \* Cook your tomatoes in olive oil for maximum anti-cancer benefits, suggests Cancer Research Center of Hawai'i Researcher John Bertram. The oil helps dissolve lycopene, the red pigment in tomatoes and watermelon, and increases its absorption by the body. Lycopene in processed foods such as tomato extract, canned tomatoes and catsup is also more efficiently absorbed than that in raw tomatoes, boosting the effectiveness of these foods, particularly in protecting against prostate cancer.
- \* College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources nutrition educator Carissa Poon is Hawai'i coordinator for the national "Fruits and Veggies: More Matters" campaign. The new campaign doesn't specify an amount, but if you want to keep count, Poon offers this quick rundown on what constitutes a serving: 1 cup chopped lettuce (about 4 medium romaine leaves); 1/2 cup raw, frozen, canned or cooked fruit or vegetables (1/4 cup cooked for things like spinach that reduce considerably); 1/4 cup dried fruit or vegetables; 25 raisins, 6 baby carrots, 4 large strawberries or 1 small orange; 1/2 cup pure fruit juice.



### Faculty pair finds ki'i to athletic training in ritual image

A training regime based on a spiritual hula concept called ki'i could help athletes be more successful when shooting a three-pointer or driving a long one down the fairway. The word "ki'i" has several meanings in the Hawaiian language, including an image, to summon or something used in a ritual. Combined, ki'i becomes "an image used in ritual to fetch," say Harald Barkhoff, UH Hilo associate professor of health and physical education, and Taupouri Tangaro, a Hawaiian lifestyles assistant professor at Hawai'i CC. When athletes develop a "sacred image" of hitting a home run or finishing a marathon, their performance enters a deeper, spiritual, level that can provide the motivation needed to capture the prize. Athletes must retain both a physical and psychological image of themselves being successful; this combination of real and envisioned is where ki'i comes into play, the researchers told colleagues at the Popular Culture Association and Modern Culture Association International Conference in Iceland during the summer.

—Courtney Baum

### Post-Katrina water quality back to normal

The sewage-tainted floodwaters pumped into Lake Pontchartrain after Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans caused only limited and short-lived degradation of water quality in the lake. Researchers from Mānoa's federally funded Pacific Research Center for Marine Biomedicine and their mainland colleagues reported results of water quality monitoring in the May 8 issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

The warm brackish lake water that flooded the city in September 2005 was an ideal breeding ground for pathogenic species of *Vibrio* bacteria and may have contributed to increasing *Vibrio* infections and deaths reported to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. But concentrations of *Vibrio* and *Legionella* bacteria dropped within two months as water temperatures fell below 50 degrees. Sewage contamination was no longer detectable in near-shore waters after several months, but continued presence of fecal indicator bacteria in canals and even non-flooded areas suggests sewage contamination in city soils and drainage water that warrants epidemiologic studies, says Assistant Professor of Oceanography Grieg Steward.

### Oceanographer and astronomer recognized

Two Mānoa researchers have been honored for groundbreaking research. Emeritus Professor of Oceanography Klaus Wyrtki, who helped identify the ocean-weather link in the El Niño phenomenon (*Mālamalama* winter 1998), was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Astronomer John Tonry shares in the \$500,000 Gruber Cosmology Prize as a member of one of two winning teams. Tonry's observation of crucial supernovae explosions in distant galaxies contributed to the discovery that expansion of the universe is accelerating and unending.

### Fountain grass is an unexpected super-genotype

Samples of the highly invasive fountain grass are genetically uniform, whether taken from its native Egypt or more recent ranges in Africa and Hawai'i. Typically, species experience genetic change as they adapt to the local conditions of different environments. But *Pennisetum setaceum* appears to be a super-genotype, pre-adapted to thrive under a broad range of ecological conditions. Scientists call this phenomenon "plasticity," and it is significant both in refining our understanding of evolutionary process and in efforts to counter invasive species. The findings were reported by a College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources team headed by Ania Wiecezorek and published in the July 4 issue of *Public Library of Science ONE*.





# Spiritual Ecology

A new movement finds commonality in religious tenets and environmental causes

by Jennifer Crites

Let's face it, Earth is in trouble. Wars, global warming, destruction of rainforests, pollution, degradation of environments and species extinction due to habitat loss are devastating our planet. Legislative efforts, Earth Day initiatives and eco-friendly organizations may reduce the negative impact. But it's not enough, says Les Sponsel, Mānoa professor of anthropology. A movement called spiritual ecology, however, has the potential to help us clean up our act and restore our planet.

"Ecology is the relationship between organisms and their environment," explains Sponsel. "The spiritual part can refer to religion but it doesn't have to. There are many people who don't consider themselves religious, yet they consider life sacred. Spiritual ecology alludes to a deeply felt personal transformation in the way we relate to our environment."

Jamie Nakama, a former student of Sponsel's and an environmental educator at the Hawai'i Nature Center, can relate. "The underlying basis for everything we do at the nature center is a type of spiritual ecology on a practical level," she says. "We're allowing children to form a deep and personal connection with the environment by giving them hands-on experiences in nature." Working with both parents and children through the Hawai'i judiciary system, Nakama teaches the concepts of interconnectedness and interdepen-

dence, not only between humans and the environment, she explains, but between people. "We help them connect with each other through nature."

Early Hawaiians understood those concepts and took care of the environment because their spiritual beliefs connected them to nature, notes Sponsel. He believes Hawaiian nature spirituality was the driving force behind a successful campaign to reclaim and restore the island of Kaho'olawe following decades of military bombing.

## A profound experience

"When humans are out in nature, many have profound experiences," he adds, citing naturalist John Muir who saw the wilderness mountains as his church, where he went to worship. "Many biologists come out of the closet when pressed and admit that when they're in a forest or other natural place they feel an emotional bonding to the wonder, richness and intricacies of life."

That often translates into a personal effort to do something good for the planet. Sponsel says the Pacific Primate Sanctuary on Maui restores monkeys traumatized by captivity to physical and mental health because founder Lucy Wormser experienced a spiritual transformation.

**Poranee Natadecha-Sponsel, standing, and Les Sponsel at the Thai Pavilion on the Mānoa campus**

Individuals can only do so much alone or in small groups. Religious institutions, on the other hand, are powerful entities that can reach out to many people. At the forefront is the Alliance of Religions and Conservation, which is affiliated with the World Wildlife Fund. It includes Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Judaism and Islam among its 11 participating faiths and urges each religion to help resolve the environmental crisis for its followers. Sponsel says the alliance has initiated more than a hundred projects since its inception in 1986, from restoring traditional, endemic plants in English churchyards, to preserving sacred landscapes and pilgrimage routes in Mexico, China and India.

At Misali Island—a sea-turtle nesting site and important coral reef system in the Zanzibar archipelago of Tanzania—local imams (Muslim leaders) used principles from the Qu’ran and Islamic law to stop 1,600 Muslim fishermen from using reef-destroying dynamite as a fishing technique. “The dynamiting had been going on for a decade or more,” says Sponsel. “The government of Tanzania, even with its gunboat patrols, hadn’t been able to stop it.” The Islamic conservation initiative not only worked in Tanzania, it spread to other Muslim fishing communities around the world.

### **A common denominator**

Preserving the environment is a common denominator for religions, according to Sponsel. “Conversation would be more difficult if the subject was abortion, capital punishment, the war in Iraq, stem-cell research or euthanasia. But because we’re all in the same environmental boat, they can have that dialog, and they’re not trying to blame or convince each other. The primary emphasis is on trying to move people of their own faiths to be more environmentally friendly.”

Universities, too, have embraced spiritual ecology. Like UH Mānoa, the University of Florida, University of Chicago, Yale, Vanderbilt and the Boston Theological Institute have created religion-and-nature academic concentrations. Harvard’s Center for the Study of World Religions hosted a series of conferences, 1996–1998, each focusing on a different world religion and ecology. Similar conferences followed at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, American Museum of Natural History and the United Nations. These gave birth to the Forum on Religion and Ecology, which produced an informative, eight-language website and led to the Canadian Forum on Religion and Ecology and the European Forum for the Study of Religion and the Environment.

“This movement has exploded. There’s so much cooperation and collaboration going on,” enthuses Sponsel, who

recently wrote an article entitled “Religion, Nature and Environment” for the online *Encyclopedia of Earth*. “With my other courses, I have to make an effort to find positive, encouraging examples for students, but with spiritual ecology, it’s all positive, hopeful and uplifting.”

In addition to credit ecological anthropology classes, Sponsel teaches spiritual ecology to packed classrooms at Mānoa’s non-credit Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. “I’m not evangelizing or championing religion versus science,” he insists. “For anthropologists, religion is considered a component of culture, like the economy and politics. I’m simply exposing students to ideas and doing research from an academic, scientific point of view.”

### **Sacred ground**

Sponsel’s own spiritual ecology research, focused on Thailand, is conducted with his wife and research partner Poranee Natadecha-Sponsel, a UH alumna and Chaminade University professor of religion, philosophy and ethics. The pair began with a study of sacred trees. “The Buddha was born beneath a sal tree; he meditated

under the bodhi tree and became enlightened, so these are sacred trees because they remind people of the life of

the Buddha,” explains Natadecha-Sponsel. “Sometimes a colored cloth or saffron robe is wrapped around a tree to show that it is sacred and people shouldn’t touch it or disturb its spirit. This is one way Buddhism can help protect the natural environment.”

Their new project involves Thailand’s sacred Buddhist caves and the bats that live there. Forty percent of Thailand’s mammalian species are fruit- or insect-eating bats, says Sponsel. The bat is a keystone species for pollination, seed dispersal and insect control. A significant reduction in the bat population would lead to serious ecological decline. Buddhist monks meditate in many bat caves, says Natadecha-Sponsel. When a monk becomes famous as a healer, the caves he used are considered sacred. Resident bats fall under the cave’s protection.

Buddhist ethics are being challenged today. Some farmers make “curry stew” out of bats that raid their fruit orchards, says Sponsel. Others kill bats to drink their blood (mixed with alcohol) because they associate the mysterious

**Spiritual ecologists experience a deep personal relationship to the environment**





**The Sponsels study Thailand caves shared by native bats and meditating monks**

mammal with health and longevity. In an effort to stop bat poaching at one sacred cave, temple monks pursued a secular course—they took the matter to court...and won.

## A changing culture

“Shopping malls are the new temples for many Thais,” laments Sponsel. “Before westernization and so-called modernization, many places in Thailand were sacred and this helped conserve nature. Prior to World War II, three-quarters of Thailand was covered with forests. Now it’s 15–20 percent at best. Thailand is a mess. They’ve had massive deforestation and floods, which we and others attribute to a weakening of adherence to Thai culture and religion.”

“There is a relationship between culture, spirituality and the environment,” says UH graduate student Sapril Akhmady. Akhmady spent several months filming the Ammatoa people in Indonesia for his master’s thesis. “Their ‘old’ religion (based on their sacred forests) and traditions taught them to preserve the environment,” he says. “It’s the pivotal force holding them together.” Akhmady’s poignant film, *People Inside the Frontier*, explains how the Ammatoa’s forests and their spiritual way of life are being threatened. The video has been submitted to Mānoa’s Sinclair Library—a six-minute clip is available at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=g3V2hBwdIFk](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g3V2hBwdIFk)—and Akhmady’s photographs are on display at Hamilton Library’s Asia Collection.

Still, there are also positive signs, according to Sponsel. Westerners’ attraction to Buddhist spiritual beliefs and customs at Thai meditation centers are causing many Thais to rethink their value. Some sectors have experienced a revitalization of religion and traditional culture.

The growth of eco-awareness in Western cultures is encouraging, too. With more nature enthusiasts demanding “green” products, large companies are forced to reduce

their earth-damaging ways to attract customers, says Natadecha-Sponsel.

## The role of religion

Religion has its critics. Sponsel points to a still-controversial essay published in *Science* in 1967 in which the writer—a theologian and historian—blamed an interpretation of the Bible that exhorts humans to “multiply and dominate the Earth” as the primary cause of the environmental crisis. Religions haven’t always practiced what they preached, and followers don’t always act on what they profess to believe, Sponsel admits. The discrepancy between ideal and actual behavior is the Achilles heel in spiritual ecology, he says.

But times are changing. In an uncommon move, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jewish and Muslim leaders met last June in Indonesia for a common purpose: to publicly denounce acts of violence committed in the name of religion, to discuss the problem openly and honestly and to call on their counterparts around the world to join them. “Religion itself is not negative,” says Sponsel. “It’s the way people use and abuse it. Religious leaders, like those in Tanzania, can play an important role in pointing out the consequences of behavior.”

“The ‘eco’ in ecology comes from the Greek root *oikos*, meaning house,” says Natadecha-Sponsel. “The earth is your house. You want it to last, so you keep it clean and protect it. At the same time, you depend on it. The environment will support you, too, if you take care of it.” Spiritual ecology goes even further, she adds. “Spiritual beliefs make us more aware of who we are. We hope that will be represented in how each one of us treats the environment.” ☺

Jennifer Crites (AA ’90 Windward, BA ’92 UHWO) is a Honolulu-based freelance writer/photographer

**Information about spiritual ecology, ecological anthropology and other Mānoa anthropology program specializations can be found at [www.anthropology.hawaii.edu/index.html](http://www.anthropology.hawaii.edu/index.html)**



## Poised to Move Ahead

Virginia Hinshaw brings enthusiasm, scientific acumen and forthright style to the job as Mānoa's new chancellor  
by Cheryl Ernst

Fascinated by penicillin discoverer Alexander Fleming, young Virginia decided to grow antibiotic-yielding mold for a science project. Misreading the required medium as corn liquor (it was probably pot liquor, the liquid in which vegetables are cooked), she told her mother that she couldn't complete an experiment requiring an illegal substance. Undaunted, her mother asked a friend, a South Carolina judge, for a sample of evidence from the next moonshine case.

The mold grew apace, like an early indicator for Virginia Hinshaw's career as a microbiologist. "My mother didn't believe in the word 'can't.' My parents said I could do anything I wanted as long as I worked hard," recalls the fervent, frank woman who assumed leadership of the University of Hawai'i's Mānoa campus in July.

"I loved being a lab rat," Hinshaw says of her years as a researcher at Medical College of Virginia, University of California, Berkeley, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Harvard Medical School and the University of Wisconsin–Madison. Her focus was on influenza viruses. She did early work on swine flu, impressing Midwestern farmers with her willingness to draw blood samples from hogs, and she stays current on the literature, closely following current concerns about bird flu. "I still teach, it's just a different audience," she says.

Discovering that she got just as big of kick out of helping others get grants and tackle challenges, Hinshaw shifted to administration, part-time as associate vice chancellor then as full-time graduate school dean/vice chancellor for research at the University of Wisconsin–Madison and later as



## 'I want UH Mānoa to be a destination of choice'

provost and executive vice chancellor at the University of California, Davis. "I've always enjoyed working with people and problem solving. I really like service work and helping make things happen," she says.

"Service" is a key word. "I always introduce myself as serving as chancellor, because that's what I'm doing. My job is to fulfill the goals and maintain the values of the people I serve."

Mānoa's values are already spelled out in a sound strategic plan based on RESPECT—research; educational effectiveness; social justice; place; economic development; culture, society and the arts; and technology. What's needed now is implementation, action steps, Hinshaw says. She has some goals in mind, but she's not laying out an agenda just yet. "My goals have to match the institution," she explains. She knows she wants to improve graduation rates and address facilities needs, and she will say this: "I want us to be a destination of choice for faculty, staff, students and the public and to be viewed as a highly respected research university."


Hinshaw is willing to take risks to get there. At Davis, she supported a new approach to hiring—in clusters across disciplines. She also led an effort to acquire a high containment laboratory for California. The initiative failed, but the effort identified the need for a team of people to help faculty put together large research proposals. The resulting team was highly successful in securing new resources for the campus.

"I ask people what gets in the way of doing their job," she says. "I love administration; I hate bureaucracy. I'm a streamliner because saving time for people enables them to focus on the passions that brought them to the university." She also describes herself as a

prioritizer. "I prefer to do a few things well rather than a lot of things poorly." She doesn't expect everyone to agree with her decisions, but says she has a responsibility to explain why she made them. A joke at Davis was that those explanations sometimes included the expression "You *will* want to do this." Hinshaw spends a lot of time listening—and reading body language for what isn't being said—to recognize stress or resistance. "I'm confrontational, and I don't mean that in a negative way. I believe in putting issues on the table because you can work on something if it's out in the open."

Openly displayed in Hinshaw's office are mascots from her previous institutions and a signed Badger basketball. She served on UW–Madison's athletic board and describes herself as an avid fan of athletics, both for the discipline and opportunities it affords young people and for what it can do to connect people to an institution.

She also is passionate about a land-grant (add sea and space for Mānoa) university's responsibility to solve society's problems. Expect her to be chief cheerleader. Davis, she notes, suffered from "Midwestern humility." Talking about the campus's contributions raised awareness and pride both within and outside the institution, she says.

"I'm very forthright," she admits. Just ask the fellow soccer mom who was disturbed to see Hinshaw's then young son more occupied with looking at flowers than going after the ball. "I thought it was a riot," Hinshaw recalls with a hearty laugh. "She asked me, 'Aren't you concerned that he's not more competitive?' I told her, 'I'm not worried about him at all, but I am very concerned about you.'" 

Cheryl Ernst is creative services director in External Affairs and University Relations

## Tidbits from a chat with the chancellor

**Nickname:** Ginger

**Family:** Married Huntsville High School sweetheart Bill at age 19; they have 2 sons, 2 daughters-in-law, 4 grandchildren

**Trademark vehicle:** an early Segway, "my only first, because I was fascinated by the technology"

**Constant accessory:** A magnetic UH nametag because it invites people to introduce themselves and talk to her

**Alma**

**mater:**  
Auburn University, BS in laboratory technology, MS and PhD in microbiology

**Accent:**

Southern drawl (apparent in "y'all" and references to "my daddy") sprinkled with Wisconsin twang (as in "ya, you betcha")

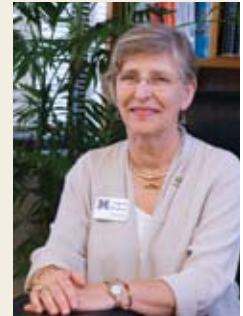
**Workout:** Walks a treadmill while watching movies; also golfs, hikes, skies, rides horses and swims

**Reading habits:** 3 books at a time—a murder mystery for fun, a self improvement work "because I never lose hope" and a third book, recently *Broken Trust* to better understand Hawai'i

**Philosophy:** Be respectful of each other and responsible for your own behavior

**Administrative style:** Team oriented—"It takes everyone doing their job to make a university successful."

**Favorite quote:** Jimmy Carter's "You must adjust to changing times but hold to unchanging principles."



# Ho'olaule'a Time

Campus and businesses partner to preserve a Windward tradition



Ho'olaulea co-chairs, from left, Barbara Grange, Libby Young and Janis Chun are planning A Homegrown Celebration on the Windward CC Great Lawn Sept. 22

Picture a starry September night and Windward Community College's Great Lawn filled with folks enjoying the sounds of some of the biggest names in Hawaiian music on an outdoor stage. The evening's entertainment is the culmination of the daylong Windward Ho'olaule'a—a free, community festival that has become the college's signature event and a visible sign of its synergistic relationship with the Kāne'ohe Business Group.

This year's event, dubbed "A Homegrown Celebration" is scheduled Sat., Sept. 22, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on the Windward campus. It is expected to draw people from all parts of the island to the Kāne'ohe campus for 'ono food, island crafts, keiki games and rides and activities showcasing Windward's people and programs.

"The ho'olaule'a has become one of the biggest community events on the Windward side, with something for the whole family," says co-chair and Kāne'ohe Business Group board member Janis Chun. "We're excited about spotlighting the homegrown talents of our musicians, crafters and Windward Community College."

The entertainment line-up includes Nā Hōkū Hanohano award winners Kapena, Holunape and Nā Kama as well as other groups and hula hālau with ties to the Windward side. New this year is a silent auction with an array of handcrafted items; gift certificates for family activities, hotels and restaurants; and imaginative donations featuring the talents of Windward faculty, staff and students. Proceeds benefit Windward CC students and programs through the campus



advancement fund and scholarships that help defray the cost of tuition, books and supplies.

This year's ho'olaule'a is also part of the Celebrate Kāne'ohe series of events, honoring a community rich in history and tradition, as well as the University of Hawai'i Centennial.

But the real story behind the event is one of people—educators and business leaders who join forces to produce one of the most popular family events on the Windward side and raise funds for the college. An army of volunteers began planning eight months out. Friends, neighbors, family members and other community groups pitch in. Kāne'ohe Business Group and Windward college folks head key committees.

Chun is one of three ho'olaule'a co-chairs, along with fellow board member Barbara Grange and Windward Professor Libby Young. "It's great that the event gets us working together," says Chun. "It gives the college exposure and it helps small businesses, like the crafters and food vendors."

Windward's ho'olaule'a is a campus tradition dating to 1973. Over the years, it attracted some of the biggest names in island music, but it grew too large for Windward CC to handle alone. After a hiatus, the idea of reviving a ho'olaule'a emerged, first at Windward Mall, then as a partnership with the Kāne'ohe Business Group and the college.

For Chun, who is in her third year as co-chair, the event has taken on a life of its own—and sometimes takes over her life. But she's not complaining. "I do like volunteering and giving back," she confides. "That's something I just grew up with." Chun's dad, Evans Yim, set the example when he founded the Kāne'ohe Business Group in 1970 to link different neighborhood associations and build community solidarity.

"Back then, my dad had a supermarket that serviced Kāne'ohe to Kahuku," Chun recalled. "We kids were the gofers. If someone couldn't come get their groceries, he made us deliver them. We trusted people to pay at the end of the month." Kāne'ohe has grown from a town of gravel streets where nobody locked their doors. The Kāne'ohe Business Group pushed for the satellite City Hall, regional post office, district park and Windward Mall. This past year, the group was a primary supporter of the college's petition drive for a new library/learning resource center. The building, which received \$41.6 million in construction funds from the 2007 state legislature, will add another campus gathering place for the community.

"We're so fortunate to have such a committed group of businesspeople willing to give their time and energy to improve the community and the college," says Windward Chancellor Angela Meixell. "We're a team, and that's what makes this relationship so special."

**More synergy:** Windward Community College Professor Libby Young has been elected the 2007–08 president of the Kāne'ohe Business Group. 🍷



Enjoy college programs, community groups and name entertainment

### Centennial lecture series celebrates faculty work

UH Mānoa launched Sharing our Work and Knowledge, a faculty lecture series, so UH academicians and researchers could learn about colleagues' work in an informal setting. Based on the success of past talks—on topics from Hawai'i's crown lands to destructive termites—the series continues through the fall. Sessions, generally held at 3:30 p.m. in Hamilton Library Room 301, are free. Students, alumni and members of the public are invited to join the faculty for these cross-disciplinary discussions.

**Sept. 26** Flying the Frontier: Pan Am World Airways and "Nisei" Stewardesses, by Christine Yano, professor of anthropology

**Oct. 10** To be announced

**Oct. 24** To be announced

**Nov. 1** Joseph Machlis and the Enjoyment of Music, by Robert Ball, professor of classics, time and location to be determined

**Nov. 15** Thinking Images: Doing Philosophy in Digital Video, by Graham Parkes, professor of philosophy

For more information call 808 956-9932 or email [uhmllibr@hawaii.edu](mailto:uhmllibr@hawaii.edu)

# How Dragons Came to Mānoa

Once upon a time in Mānoa Valley there lived three storytellers who charmed the people of the valley with their wondrous stories about magnificent creatures. Children from all over the realm were drawn to the magic they spun until one day dragons sprang off the page and came to life...

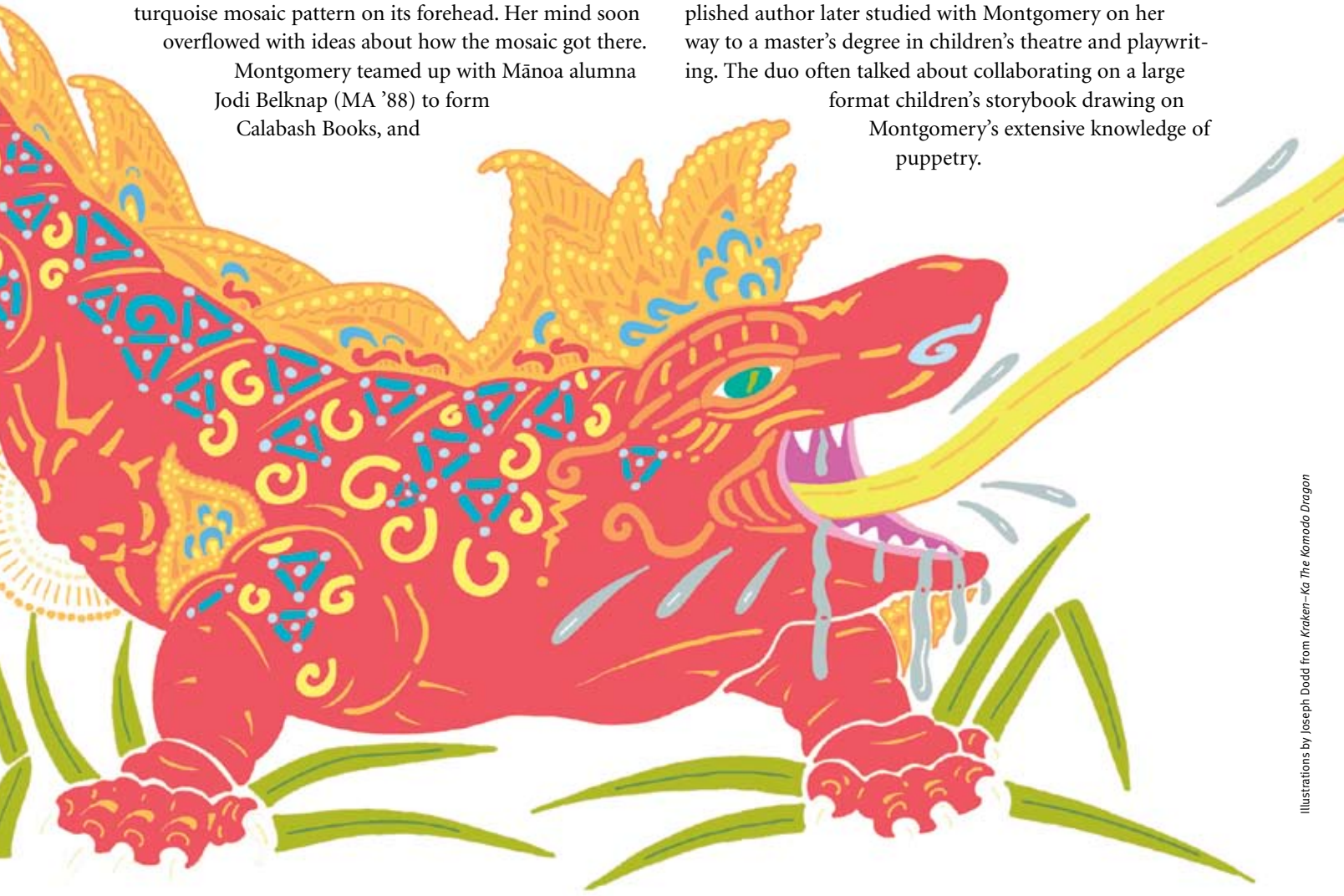
by Tracy Matsushima

When storytellers possess great imaginations and inquisitive minds, anything is possible. For Tamara Montgomery, inspiration dawned on a trip to a natural history museum. UH Mānoa's youth theatre professor and educational puppetry expert spotted a Komodo dragon with a turquoise mosaic pattern on its forehead. Her mind soon overflowed with ideas about how the mosaic got there.

Montgomery teamed up with Mānoa alumna Jodi Belknap (MA '88) to form Calabash Books, and

soon the story *Kraken-Ka The Komodo Dragon: A Tale of Indonesia* was brought to the page.

Montgomery first met Belknap, owner of Belknap Publishing and Design, in 1975 when she adapted one of Belknap's books, *Felisa and the Magic Tikling Bird*, as a dance drama for children at the Honolulu Zoo. The accomplished author later studied with Montgomery on her way to a master's degree in children's theatre and playwriting. The duo often talked about collaborating on a large format children's storybook drawing on Montgomery's extensive knowledge of puppetry.





"We wanted to create a book that would encourage children to make their own shadow puppets and create their own plays," says Belknap. With Calabash Books, they hoped to focus on the distant reach of the Pacific Rim. "People don't realize how large the Pacific Rim is. We are part of an international community and we want children to see how interconnected we all are," says Montgomery.

Each Calabash book will focus on one region—its environment, the culture and an endangered species. Since their inspirational animal was the Komodo dragon, they started with its home of Indonesia.

### The dragon enters a book

In their story, the goddess Naga creates the first dragon, a beautiful creature called the Kraken-Ka, his skin "deep red and dusted all over with blue, orange and yellow triangles, crescents, spirals and stripes." Naga warns the gluttonous Kraken-Ka to only take from the earth what he needs, but will he listen? How did the most beautiful creature turn into the squat, dusty brown lizard it is today?

To illustrate their story, Montgomery brought in fellow theatre professor and well-known set designer Joseph Dodd. She wanted the book to capture the art and feel of Indonesia and its beautiful and intricate shadow puppets. Dodd also referenced Chinese paper cuts, Japanese mons (crests) and East Indian folk stencils for the quality of their wonderfully simplified graphics.

Going from three-dimensional set design to book illustration wasn't a problem for Dodd. "In my scene designs I always try to get the action as close to the audience as possible," he says. He breaks the stage frame with scenic elements that project into the audience. "I attempted to do this in the book by having the illustrations break a margin, cross the spine and even jump from one side of a page to the other."

Belknap stresses that they wanted the book to be as interactive as possible, so *Kraken-Ka The Komodo Dragon* comes with an instructional CD. The kids' section features puppets that can be printed out and decorated, a script to stage their own play and a letter from the Kraken-Ka. A teachers' section includes several lessons, including an activity in which students learn how much a Komodo dragon eats and then have to figure out how much they would have to consume to match the dragon.

The team hopes to have a related website, <http://cb.com>, ready in the fall so children can post pictures of their Kraken-Ka creations.



### The Kraken-Ka makes it way onstage

Everyone can meet the Kraken-Ka when he comes to visit Mānoa. He's even bringing along some dragon friends. *Kraken-Ka the Komodo Dragon and Other Pacific Rim Dragon Tales* will take over the Kennedy Theatre's main stage Sept. 21–30.

Montgomery created two additional dragon stories for the play. The tales are brought to life with a wonderful mix of puppets, song, dance and magic. Each story reflects different styles of puppetry. In addition to the Kraken-Ka story told with shadow puppets, audiences will meet two little sea dragons—Weedy and Leafy—as they make a new home in Australia's reef. The reef residents are afraid of the "dragons" at first but they soon make friends. Weedy discovers how to camouflage himself and Leafy learns to dance. Montgomery says the idea stems from the sea dragons at UH's Waikiki Aquarium.

She also created a story of a dragon living in Hawai'i skies. The mischievous creature riles all the inhabitants of the Pacific. His ocean swims create huge waves that ruin the crops, Bali complains. He lights the volcanoes and causes hot lava to come oozing out, Hawai'i grumbles. His spinning and flying makes mighty winds, Mexico frets. When everyone chases him away, the dragon hides high in the sky until the Pacific people discover they need him.

Theatre student Kamuel DeMerville drafted the script; Molly McKenna and Kat Pleviak constructed the puppets. "This is an excellent opportunity for students," says Montgomery. "It is impressive for a student to have his or her play staged at Kennedy Theatre." Mānoa is renowned for its puppetry program—graduates have become professional puppeteers with *Sesame Street* and *Eureka's Castle*.

The set proved to be a challenge. "It would have been easier to just design an Indonesian influenced set for Kraken-Ka," says Dodd, "but the play features three different dragon





**Mānoa puppetry and children's theatre expert Tamara Montgomery, above, co-authored the *Komodo* story with alumna Jodi Belknap and directed the dragon-laden play**

*Kraken-Ka* plays Sept. 21–23 and 29–30; for times and ticket information, see [www.hawaii.edu/theatre/calendar.htm](http://www.hawaii.edu/theatre/calendar.htm) or call the Kennedy Theatre Box Office, 808 956-7655

stories from different Pacific Rim countries, making a visual style from any one country difficult to choose.” He took inspiration from the Pacific’s ring of fire, creating a circle of lava rock sculpted by the elements to resemble a stony dragon. “I wanted something primitive, natural and timeless,” explains Dodd.

Where will the storytellers venture next? The journey around the Pacific Rim has just begun, with many countries to choose from. The sources of inspiration are unending, but here’s a hint: Have you heard of the Arctic fox? Did you know he never longed to be white? ㊦

Tracy Matsushima is a UH publication specialist in External Affairs and University Relations

Photo courtesy of Kennedy Theatre

## Picture books and more from UH alumni

### Explaining tradition

**Minako Ishii** (MA '07 Mānoa) drew on assignments as a photographer to craft *Girls' Day/Boys' Day* (Bess Press), a visually rich work that is two books in one. Brief text and bountiful photos tell the origin, significance and customs of Girls' Day in Japan and Hawai'i. Flip the book over for the same experience with Boys' Day. Ishii's early interest in world cultures was heightened by her travels throughout Asia, Europe and the Americas during eight years as a senior business analyst with Sony. Her passion for storytelling through images is reflected on her website, [www.beyondbordersimages.com](http://www.beyondbordersimages.com)



**Ishii with young fan**

### Traveling with a teddy

**Trefoni Michael Rizzi** (MFA '92 Mānoa) credits co-author Tedrick De Bear, “a teddy bear with a heart for adventure and a burning need to have his picture taken in front of every national park entrance sign in the nation,” as the inspiration for his family travel guide, *Teddy's Travels: America's National Parks*. Rizzi has designed sets off-Broadway and at Lincoln Center Theatre's Director's Lab and taught theatre and puppetry at universities across the country. His travel guide—the first in a series of 10 covering the entire National Park System—won *ForeWord* magazine's 2007 Book of the Year Silver Award and the Independent Book Publishers Association's Benjamin Franklin Award. It is available at 15 National Park bookstores from Denali to Yosemite, including the USS Arizona Memorial. More on the book, blog and newsletter (trivia cards and postcards to come) at <http://tdbpress.com>



**Rizzi with Tedrick**

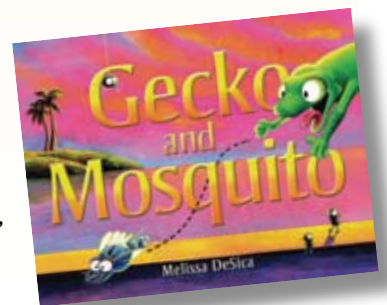
### Making a mountain from a giant

**Edna Cabcabin Moran** (BA '84 Mānoa) draws on an enchanted akua theme and Hawaiian oli to tell the ka'ao, or fanciful story, of how Nounou mountain came to be in *The Sleeping Giant: A Tale from Kaua'i*. Only young Pualani can tame the hungry giant, who devours the villagers' taro. The author, an Alameda, Calif., resident and a mother of two, has worked as a graphic artist, caricaturist and children's entertainer. She draws on her artistic training and her experience as a dancer with Nā Lei Hula I Ka Wēkiu to add subtext and emotional clues to the paintings that illustrate the book. More at [www.beachhousepublishing.com/picture\\_books.html](http://www.beachhousepublishing.com/picture_books.html)



### Giving a bully his comeuppance

**Melissa DeSica** (BA '05 Mānoa) dishes out just deserts to a greedy mo'o in her latest book, *Gecko and Mosquito*. The unlikely hero unites the bugs in the hale to deal with a greedy gecko in this lively tale related in rhyming verse. DeSica, a Kailua High School graduate and Roald Dahl fan, was raised by her grandmother along with 16 foster siblings. She illustrated her first book cover, *Shark Stories*, at age 14. More recently she's brought a poetry-loving Hawaiian mouse to life in *Wordsworth the Poet* and, new this summer, *Wordsworth Dances the Waltz*, a child's view of the changes as grandparents age. *Gecko* is her first project as both author and illustrator. More information under children's books at [www.bookshawaii.net](http://www.bookshawaii.net)







Windward Botany Club members at the medicinal garden

# Gardening for the Future

Windward's bioprocessing facility encompasses both culture and economy

by Courtney Baum

**W**hen Kermit the Frog mourned that it's not easy being green, he obviously hadn't met Inge White.

With a combination of cultural and scientific knowledge, Windward Community College's own green goddess will convince you that going green is good for the health of individuals, the environment and the economy.

"There's so much that we can do with plants—processing them into herbal teas, perfumes, wine..." enthuses White, an associate professor of botany and microbiology. White established Windward's new Bioprocessing Medicinal Garden Complex in June. The initiative fosters entrepreneurship based on natural plant products. The

complex includes the medicinal garden, with plants from Asia, the Pacific Islands and America; an aquaponic system where fish help fertilize water-growing plants; and a bioprocessing trailer where students use medicinal and nutritious plants from the garden to make marketable products.

Supported through grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the medicinal garden is the living, growing heartbeat of the campus's developing Plant Biotechnology Program. The term "medicinal garden" may conjure up images of a wise old sage furtively picking herbs and grinding them into potions with mortar and pestle. Herbal lore crosses the ages and cultures, the respected expertise of tribal witch doctors, shamans and kahunas who understood remedies from the earth.

The medicinal garden has a history in academia, as well. Dating to

1545, the Hortus Simplicium of Italy's University of Padova bills itself as the "most ancient university garden in the world." Closer to home, the University of Washington broke ground on its drug plant garden in 1911, and the University of Connecticut founded a medicinal garden in the 1950s. Hawaiian medicinal plants inspired design elements and grow in the garden at the UH Mānoa John A. Burns School of Medicine's Kaka'ako facilities.

Windward's garden draws on Hawai'i's location and history as a crossroad between Asia and the U.S. mainland. "We're able to do a lot just based on our location and environment," says White. "For 14 years I took students on independent study to Asia to learn medicinal and nutritional plants. I'm from Indonesia and I know a lot of uses for plants that people here just don't know yet."



**Student Kimberly Ching, left, joins garden guru Inge White in planting orchids and other useful plants**

For nearly a decade, White has nurtured a seedling biotech program with an eye to bringing a different kind of green to the state of Hawai‘i. Her vision is three-fold—

### **Provide skills to enter the biotech workforce**

“Hawai‘i has lots of biotech jobs, but up until three years ago, all of the companies had mainland hires,” says White. Now the medicinal garden complex, together with White’s Kūhi Lā‘au Tropical Plant and Orchid Identification Facility, climate controlled greenhouse and the Tissue Culture and Plant Biotechnology Lab equip students with plant culture, aquaponic and genetic engineering techniques—skills that can net biotech jobs.

### **Prepare students to continue their studies**

Students who complete Windward’s academic subject certificate in bio-resources and technology: plant biotechnology complete prerequisite classes that partially fulfill requirements for an associate in arts. Careful elective planning puts them on track for pursuing bachelor’s and advanced degrees at Mānoa’s College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

CTAHR Associate Dean Charles Kinoshita recalls a student who entered CTAHR’s undergraduate biotechnology program, received an MS in molecular biosciences and bio-engineering and now is in medical school. “She is using the foundation she gained in the biological sciences, in both Dr. White’s and CTAHR’s programs, to become successful in the life sciences,” he says. Encouraged by White, Windward student Ika Ika has set his sights on pharmacy school. “Inge has a heart and a passion for this. Not all teachers have that.”

### **Fuel bioprocessing entrepreneurship within the state**

“I want students to see a plant and think, ‘Does this plant have nutritional value? Does this plant have economic value? What can we do with this plant?’” says White. Former student Lora Stark did just that and won the \$20,000 social enterprise prize in the 2005 UH Business Plan Competition. She founded Hoku International, manufacturer of natural skin care products including lotions and soaps developed in Stark’s laboratory from locally grown plants and herbs.

“There weren’t a lot of products that bring out the natural beauty of Hawai‘i,” says Stark. “So much comes from other places and is sold under the idea that it’s Hawaiian, but it’s not. Everything I make comes from plants grown in Hawai‘i.” Stark, in turn, helps the industry grow. She even offered internships and mentored White’s botany classes to stimulate entrepreneurship. “If we can rebuild the land and help medicinals come alive again, we can help heal our land, too. I’m not Native Hawaiian, but my heart is.”

Word of the garden has spread. Boy Scout Troop 329 is seeking a community service grant to build benches

and help maintain the complex. White invites community members to participate in planting new specimens to cultivate interest in use of plants to benefit health. She is collaborat-

## **Recipes from the medicinal garden**

**Inge White offers these recipes for edible plants usually considered by westerners to be merely ornamental**

### **Amaranth Fritters**

A popular Javanese pupu

20 Amaranth (large) leaves  
1/2 to 3/4 cups all purpose flour  
2 cloves garlic, pressed  
Pinch of salt, black pepper, sugar  
Vegetable oil for frying

Mix flour and water to make a batter. Add pressed garlic, salt, pepper and sugar to taste. Heat oil. Using one whole amaranth leaf per fritter, dip leaves into batter and fry until brown.

Rich in protein, vitamins A and C, calcium and iron, amaranth leaves have a delicate flavor similar to that of spinach. Many species grow as weeds throughout Asia, the Pacific and Central America.

### **Pumpkin-Orchid Soup**

2 lbs. fresh pumpkin  
15–20 bamboo orchid flowers (*Arundina graminifolia*)  
3 cloves garlic, pressed  
1/2 stick of butter  
4 oz. light cream  
salt, black pepper, sugar to taste

Cut pumpkin into pieces and boil until half-cooked. Retain water. Peel off skin and puree pumpkin pieces in blender with some water. Mix puree with enough of the cooking water to produce desired consistency (not too thin).

Sautee garlic in butter and add to soup together with cream, salt, pepper and sugar to taste. Let boil for 5 minutes. Serve hot, garnished with floating edible bamboo orchid flowers.




ing with Windward's Employment Training Center to have students from the Certified Nursing Aid Program work in the garden as part of their studies in nutrition.

For White, education is organic. "She's helped us get grants, brought in people to talk about where we can go and lots of extra things, too, like cooking for us," says former student Kim Chinen. The professor and her students have even compiled a cookbook of plant-based recipes to share

the health benefits with other students and friends.

White has a keen interest in using orchid flowers grown in the medicinal garden for food and medicine." Ask your grandmother and she'll tell you how back in the '60s and '70s everyone at the airports received Vanda orchid lei," says White. "Unfortunately, they fell out of fashion and went down to only one cent per flower. In the 1970s a Mānoa graduate student did a study that showed the flower is highly nutri-

tious, containing many amino acids. I made tempura and chocolate-covered flowers for my students and visiting Kagawa Junior College students from Japan. They seemed to enjoy it, so I took it to chefs. Alan Wong made three dishes out of it, and Grant Sato from Kapi'olani Community College made a delicious appetizer and dessert."

So it may be good—and lucrative—to be green, Kermit. 

Courtney Baum is a UH public information officer in External Affairs and University Relations

## Garden News

### Free garden help online

Mānoa's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources has redesigned its Cooperative Extension Service website with top billing for home and garden topics. Subjects, from the Master Gardener Program to backyard conservation, and a link to the Ask an Expert database can be found at [www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/site/extprograms.aspx](http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/site/extprograms.aspx).

### Summer courses create kalo conscious kids ...

Ten students from Big Island high schools received high school and college credit for an intensive interdisciplinary course on kalo in June. Teaching in both English and Hawaiian, staff from Waiākea High School, UH Hilo's College of Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resource Management and 'Imiloa Astronomy Center of Hawai'i presented the cultural significance of kalo along with growing methods and end products, both traditional and modern.

Besides introducing students to economic opportunities related to the taro crop, the course is intended to encourage study of science, agriculture, mathematics and Hawaiian language and culture. Students even have access to UH Hilo's career planning services. Organizers tapped federal and local funding sources to offer the inaugural session; they hope to expand the program next summer.

### ... and savvy science teachers

A dozen middle and high school science teachers from Hawai'i and across the country gather at Kaua'i's National Tropical Botanical Garden each summer for two weeks of topics from traditional plant uses to laboratory plant analy-

sis. Special attention is paid to environmental diversity, human impacts and efforts to preserve endangered species.

The course, offered in partnership with Kaua'i CC, helps teachers create learning modules and science kits that they can reproduce in the classroom in fulfillment of national science education standards. Kaua'i Professor Brian Yamamoto and other course instructors want teachers to challenge students to appreciate, understand and respect plant life.

### Proof that gardening is healthy

Two communal garden projects supported by the Department of Native Hawaiian Health in Mānoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine are producing positive health results. About 25 community members experienced weight loss and improved blood workups in the Makahiki Project at the Wai'anae Coast Comprehensive Health Center. The participants cultivate native crops and share the foods during a monthly potluck. At Kōkua Kalihi Valley, individuals who have or are at risk for developing diabetes attend educational sessions and learn to prepare healthy foods that they grow in a community garden. Participants saw decreases in cholesterol, blood pressure and HbA1c, a blood factor indicative of diabetes.

### Publications on garden topics


Say you want to grow the hot new Hawai'i crop. Recent publications from the CTAHR Cooperative Extension Service describe how to germinate and plant tea seeds and how to process black or green tea at home. These and many other offerings are available at [www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/ctahr2001/PIO](http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/ctahr2001/PIO). Click "free publications" for the tea germination (found under "soil and crop management") or tea production ("food safety and technology") or to browse the "home garden" section.



Using radar and wireless technology, LifeReader detects vital signs in a

# HEARTBEAT

by Cheryl Ernst



In the lab, doctoral candidate Byung-Kwon Park compares radar results to traditional measures in monitoring the heart and respiration rates of team member Shuhei Yamada, who earned his MS in electrical engineering in May

Rescue workers climb gingerly over mounds of rubble following a major earthquake, searching for people who were inside the building when it collapsed. The rescuers call, then pause and listen carefully for a response from survivors. But what if victims lie beneath the debris alive but unconscious?

Anxious parents linger at their newborn's crib. They know the heartache and real, though unfounded feelings of guilt associated with losing a child to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. What if this cherished infant stops breathing during the night?

Security personnel scrutinize identi-

fication documents and carefully study X-ray images of carry-on luggage. They visually scan the long line of travelers for nervous or suspicious behavior. What if there was a way to detect unusually nervous or hostile feelings disguised by a seemingly calm exterior?

The potential applications of a new technology called Heart Sensing Radar/LifeReader™ are real and varied. The technology was developed by three UH Mānoa electrical engineering professors who have married microwave Doppler radar to digital signal processing to create an unobtrusive means of detecting life signs. Working with the university's Office of Technology Transfer and Economic Development, their spin-

off company, Senscorp Technologies, is developing the commercial product.

Olga Boric-Lubecke and Victor Lubecke are the hardware experts. She brings experience with biomedical applications of wireless systems. Husband Victor focuses on micro-electro-mechanical systems for wireless and optical communications and monitoring technologies for biomedical and industrial applications. Both are senior members of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and have conducted research at Japan's Institute of Physical and Chemical Research (RIKEN), NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Bell Laboratories. Anders Host-Madsen heads the software team, draw-



ing on his work in signal processing, wireless communications and wireless sensor networks. He is an IEEE editor and has held faculty appointments in Korea, Canada and the United States and worked at TRILabs.

The trio began working together about three years ago, securing National Science Foundation funding and assembling a team that includes a post-doctoral researcher, several graduate students and even a handful of undergraduates. “We’ve worked in private industry, so we know there’s a huge difference between having something work in principle and having it work in practice,” says Host-Madsen. When they formed Senscorp to tackle the practical development, they brought in Heeyeon Kim (MBA ’02 Mānoa), who was recently promoted to tax senior at Nishihama & Kishida, CPAs, as financial officer.

The principle behind LifeReader™ is similar to the operation of a police officer’s speed gun. A radar signal is sent toward a moving car. The frequency shift in the signal as it bounces back reveals the speed of the car. Sounds simple enough. But the distance covered by a beating heart and the motion of a breathing chest is miniscule by comparison. Add to that the complexity of a biological system. “I had to read a lot of articles on how the heart works,” Host-Madsen recalls. “I had assumed it was a periodic signal, but biological systems in the body don’t follow a nice regular pattern.” To be effective, a system must distinguish between normal variations in heartbeat and rhythms that indicate physical stress or emotional intensity.

The UH-developed technology has three major advantages over existing monitoring systems—it is wireless, it can “see” through walls, and it can distinguish the signals of multiple people.

As a medical device, a wireless device is unobtrusive. Free of connected electrodes taped to the body, patients could be continuously monitored to diagnose problematic heart rhythms or

signal a heart attack. Babies could be monitored for SIDS. Elderly individuals could live alone with assurance that someone will observe a problem with their vital signs.

By the same token, athletes’ performance could be more easily monitored during training and telltale signs of distress that indicate when someone is lying or has hostile intent could be remotely detected. After viewing their technology, one lawyer joked that he would like to have the system installed in his watch to see if an opponent is lying, Host-Madsen says.


With a signal that penetrates even metal and distinguishes between different heart beats, military or SWAT teams can determine presence, number and location of combatants on the other side of a wall. Other detection methods are limited in that they only recognize gross motion, Host-Madsen observes. “You can crouch, motionless. You can even hold your breath. But you can’t stop your heart from beating.” For rescuers, quickly identifying life signs could speed treatment of the wounded on a battlefield or location of the living in a disaster.

The team is still working on miniaturization, and researchers estimate they will complete a commercial prototype in the near future. The technology generated considerable interest at the World’s Best Technologies Showcase in Texas May 15–16 and won the Emerging Technology Award at TechConnect Summit 2007 in Santa Clara later that month.

At the latter event, the Office of Technology Transfer and Economic Development also presented two other UH inventions—a novel solar-powered system for producing hydrogen and oxygen gases from water (for hydrogen fuel cell, medical and industrial applications) and unique nanocomposite materials with improved strength and stress- and fracture-resistance (for use in aircraft, vehicles, consumer goods and many resin-based products).

The amount of follow up generated by

the shows, both from potential investors and companies interested in collaborating on applications, is a good endorsement of the technology, says OTTED Director Richard Cox. The office’s role is to present technologies developed in Hawai‘i, find partners to license and commercialize UH inventions, foster spin-off opportunities and bring recognition to UH research and inventions. Cox joined the university convinced of its potential as an economic engine for the state and the caliber of its faculty. His experience with heart sensing radar has added this lesson:

“The quality of engineering students at UH—we’ve been very impressed.” 

Cheryl Ernst is the *Mālamalama* editor and creative services director in External Affairs and University Relations

## The OTTED advantage

Universities, often backed by federal funding agencies, focus on creating new knowledge, including the basis for new technologies. Companies tailor these technologies into products that meet market demands. As a bridge between academia and industry, UH’s Office of Technology Transfer and Economic Development promotes local research-and-development businesses and creates royalty income for the university. During the past four years—

- 7 start-up companies have created 10 new, good-paying jobs.
- 2 licensed start-ups have sponsored additional research at UH.
- the office has averaged 3–4 active license negotiations at any given time.

For more information on OTTED, visit [www.otted.hawaii.edu](http://www.otted.hawaii.edu)

## UHAA Activities

For more information, see <http://UHalumni.hawaii.edu> or call 808 956-ALUM or (toll free) 1-877-UH-ALUMS

**Sept 15** UH vs. UNLV Tailgate and Game in Las Vegas

**Sept 16** Alumni Brunch at Suncoast Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas

**Oct 4** 2007 Hall of Honor Awards, presented by the Shidler College of Business, 5 p.m., Hilton Hawaiian Village

**Oct 19** UHAA Golf Tournament at Waialeale Golf Course

**Oct 25** UHAA Homecoming Block Party at Murphy's

**Oct 27** UH Warriors vs. New Mexico State Homecoming Game

**Nov (TBA)** Golden Scholars 50th Reunion

### Save the Date

## Distinguished Alumni Centennial Ball

**April 14, 2008**  
**Sheraton Waikiki Hotel**

Mark your calendars for next year's celebration of outstanding UH alumni.

In addition to celebrating new Distinguished Alumni Awardees, the Distinguished Alumni Centennial Ball will honor all previous award recipients.

Watch the UHAA website at <http://UHalumni.hawaii.edu> for details.

## UH 'Ohana News from UHAA and affiliated alumni chapters

### UHAA

**2007 Distinguished Alumni** awardees were joined by family and friends at the annual Distinguished Alumni Awards dinner May 23. Pictured from left, May Kirimitsu '63; Walleette and Jay '68 Shidler; Tony, Lois, Tom '40-'41 (front) and Eric Gill; Gov. Linda Lingle; Walter Kirimitsu '62



The **International Alumni Reunion** Aug. 9-12, sponsored by Mānoa's International Student Services office, included an aloha dinner, UH day on campus and sunset dinner cruise, culminating with graduation and a luncheon.

At the **UHAA General Membership Meeting** June 26, new Mānoa Men's Head Basketball Coach Bob Nash '84 told his story, offered a season preview and gave away basketball t-shirts and souvenirs. Alumni heard from outgoing UHAA President Janet Yoshida, incoming President Ren Hirose and Executive Director Kevin Takamori.

### Hawai'i

The **UH School of Architecture Alumni Association** held its general meeting and annual dinner June 22 at the Outrigger Canoe Club. UHSAAA honored 2007 Distinguished Alumna Carol S. Sakata for her outstanding contributions to the community, the school and the association.

A **UH alumni golf group** meets every other month for golf at various courses around O'ahu. Anyone interested in joining can contact Manny Dayao at [mannydayao@hotmail.com](mailto:mannydayao@hotmail.com).

### Regional

The **Las Vegas Chapter** held its annual scholarship fundraising golf tournament at Palm Valley Golf Course in Summerlin, Nev. Grand-prize winner of two roundtrip tickets to Hawai'i was Rodnick Tulsavalalo from First Tee Association of teen golfers. The chapter sold more than 1,500 spam musubi at its 10th annual Lei Day celebration May 6-7 at the California Hotel. It reports 14 new members.

The **National Capital Region Chapter** hosted its 10th annual Aloha Invitational Charity Golf Tournament June 15 at the Virginia Oaks Golf Club in Gainesville. Proceeds fund the Intern Program, which the chapter co-sponsors with Mānoa's College of Arts and Sciences to bring UH students to Washington, D.C., for internships at the Washington Center or Smithsonian Institution. Interns receive airfare, housing and a stipend and can earn up to 12 credits.

The **Pacific Northwest Chapter** hosted UH President David McClain for dinner June 7 and held its summer picnic and 4th Annual Freshman Sendoff at Enatai Beach Park in Bellevue, Wash., July 29.

**Southern California alumni** helped represent UH at five spring college fairs from San Diego to Santa Barbara. Alumni also attend 25-30 high school district college fairs and junior college transfer days each fall and met with 130 prospective students and their parents in Anaheim earlier this year.





## Aloha Fellow UH Alumni!

I am particularly honored to serve as your alumni association president during the UH Centennial Celebration. I would like to acknowledge the milestone accomplishments of UHAA Past President Janet Yoshida (BFA '82 Mānoa), whose leadership these past two years has been integral in the evolution of UHAA. We introduced our first alumni directory, created a new brand identity, hosted an Alumni Homecoming Block Party, launched an alumni travel program and more than doubled dues-paying membership.



Ren T. Hirose

During my tenure, we will focus on increasing membership, engaging alumni through social networking and educational programs, celebrating the UH Centennial and, most importantly, continuing to build UH alumni pride. Our chapters will be close partners, and UHAA will strengthen its relationship with each, providing guidance and support as needed. We will reach out to our neighbor island, mainland and international chapters to underscore UH's global outreach.

Membership dues provide the foundation for UHAA's continued growth and viability. Your support also can be realized by participating with your chapter, attending alumni events, mentoring a student or recent graduate or donating to UH. I salute our Board of Directors, a group of volunteers truly dedicated to furthering UHAA's mission, and the UH Foundation's hardworking Alumni Relations staff.

I look forward to working with all of you to create a memorable and positive experience for all UH alumni.

Mahalo,  
Ren T. Hirose (BBA '85, Mānoa)

## UH alumni vie for businesswoman honors

*Pacific Business News* named **Susan Au Doyle** (MBA '82 Mānoa) their 2007 Businesswoman of the Year. Doyle has been president and chief professional officer of Aloha United Way since 2004. She had plenty of competition for the honor from other UH alumni, including these finalists:

**Layla Dedrick** (BA '94 West O'ahu), teacher turned Natural Stone business owner

**Tertia Freas** (BBA '78 Mānoa), first Hawai'i woman to be an audit partner for Deloitte & Touche

**Rochelle Lee Gregson** (BA '75 Mānoa), CEO of the Honolulu Board of Realtors since 2005

**Lynne Johnson** (MBA '83, MA '01 Mānoa), chair of the Academy of Arts Board of Trustees

**Angela Meixell** (MEd '76, EdD '83 Mānoa), Windward CC chancellor

**Kay Mukaigawa** (BA '86 Mānoa), co-creator of Primary Properties

**June Nakamura** (BS '73 Mānoa), president and principal-in-charge of Engineering



Susan Au Doyle

## New UH Alumni Association board members introduced

**Randal Ikeda** (BBA '84 Mānoa), general manager, ESPN Radio 1420

**Evan Leong** (MBA '05 Mānoa), co-founder and CEO, Greater Good Inc. and Bubble Tea Supply Co.

**Cory Nakamura** (AAT '01 Leeward, BBA '04 Mānoa), wealth manager, Lee Financial Group

**Eve Shere** (MBA '83 Mānoa), Realtor, Eve Shere and Associates

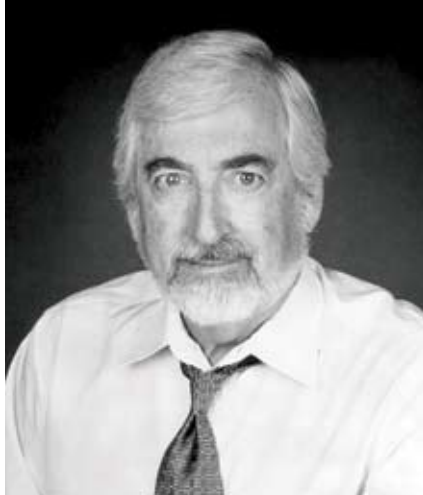
**Dana Takushi** (BBA '91 Mānoa), senior vice president and manager, Commercial Banking Group Sales and Process Development, Bank of Hawai'i

**Darrell Yamagata** (BA '84 Mānoa), vice president, Commercial Banking, American Savings Bank



## Library grad gets Monk book namesake

In the book *Mr. Monk and the Blue Flu*, Cindy Chow is a paranoid schizophrenic who wears a foil cap and claims to have been abducted by aliens. In real life, Chow (BA '95, MLISc '00 Mānoa) is Kāne'ohe Public Library's perfectly normal young adult librarian. Chow, who also writes book reviews, met Lee Goldberg, a TV writer and author of four books based on obsessive-compulsive TV detective Monk, at a mystery writers conference. She invited him to the television script-writing workshops she coordinated at O'ahu libraries in 2006. After she served as his chauffeur, Lee named one of his characters for her...out of gratitude...we think.



## Dick Spangler

Broadcaster, author

**UH degree:** BA in political science '59 Mānoa

**Career:** President of Spangler's World Communications

**Memorable moment:** Trying to attach a promotional radio banner to the dorsal fin of a 16-foot tiger shark in a tank with 15 other sharks

**Awards:** Five Golden Mikes and the Grand Award for Best Reporting from the Greater Los Angeles Press Club

**Unique record:** Bowling for more than 51 hours at the Wai'ālae Bowl with an average score of 155

**Hobbies:** Shodokan karate, kung fu

**Family:** Wife Joan, sons Paul and Shane

In 1954 freshman Dick Spangler and friend Don Berrigan started a KHON radio program dubbed *The Dick and Don Show on the Bonny Banks of the Ala Wai Canal*. He later worked at KORL, KGMB-TV and KGU in Hawai'i and as a radio/TV anchor in California. His *Spangler's World* radio interview show was syndicated across the U.S. for 25 years.

Spangler is now a full-time writer whose books include *Kung Fu: History, Philosophy and Technique*. His recent work, *West Point to Pearl Harbor: A Little Boy Remembers the Japanese Attack and Other Survivor Stories from America's Greatest Military Disaster*, explores the lasting effect the attack had on his family and others. Spangler was 5 at the time, living at Fort Kamehameha where his father was a captain. He remembers firing his toy pistol at Japanese bombers. He's pledged a portion of the royalties to West Point's Long Gray Line Endowment and the Pearl Harbor Memorial Fund.

—Heidi Sakuma

## Class Notes

**Campuses:** UH Mānoa, Hilo and West O'ahu; Hawai'i, Honolulu, Kapi'olani, Kaua'i, Leeward, Maui and Windward Community Colleges

### 1950s

**Daniel Inouye** (BA '50 Mānoa), Hawai'i's senior senator, received an American Association for Cancer Research Centennial Medal for Distinguished Public Service.

**John Randall** (PhD '55 Mānoa), a leading authority on coral reef fishes, published his new book, *Reef and Shore Fishes of the Hawaiian Islands*. The Bishop Museum senior ichthyologist and UH Manoa graduate faculty member has described 555 new reef fish species.

### 1960s

**Milton Asano** (BBA '69 Mānoa) is now a vice president and senior information technology auditor, First Hawaiian Bank.

**Barbara Balderas** (BS '66 Mānoa) was named Outstanding Teacher of the Year by western Washington's Highline Schools Foundation for Excellence.

**Thomas Okano** (BA '60 Mānoa), a Buddhist minister in Hawai'i for 40 years, is the top executive and spiritual leader of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i.

**Allan Smith** (BS '68 Mānoa) is interim director of Hawai'i's Department of Land and Natural Resources. The Kaua'i native oversaw land development and administered agro-forestry and diversified agricultural leases as senior vice president of Grove Farm Company.

**Storrs Denny Smith** (BS '67 Mānoa) writes: "The Kappa Iota fraternity, active in the 1950s–70s, is planning a reunion in early October. Please contact Steve Foytich at foytichsoo1@hawaii.rr.com."

**Paul Sugimoto** (BEEd '60 Mānoa) retired as executive director of the Aloha Section Professional Golfers' Association of America. The former Rainbow baseball infielder helped establish a tax-exempt PGA Foundation to provide scholarships and contribute to charitable organizations.

**Mohammad Riaz Umar** (MBA '66 Mānoa) retired as professor of marketing management and principal at the Zakir Hussain Post Graduate Evening College at the University of Delhi in India.



**Andrew Zane** (MSW '66 Mānoa) is co-owner of Antiques Alley, a collectible items and antiques shop on Kapi'olani Boulevard in Honolulu.

### 1970s

**Michael Asam** (BBA '74 Mānoa) is president and CEO of Hawai'i Community Federal Credit Union on the Big Island.

**Bruce Barnes** (MEd '70, JD '77 Mānoa) welcomes son Shawn Makani Zaluaga, born in Honolulu Feb. 23.

**William Brown** (PhD '73 Mānoa) was named president of the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia. He was previously president and CEO of Bishop Museum in Hawai'i.

**Richard DiCrescenzo** (BBA '79 Mānoa) wrote a 14-page pamphlet titled, "After a Brain Injury" to assist individuals with brain injuries, strokes and post-traumatic stress disorder. He also was an instructor in higher mathematics at Pearl Harbor for military personnel.

**Jason Fujihara** (BBA '72 Mānoa) joined Heide & Cook subsidiary Air Reps Hawai'i as general manager. The Pearl City resident will maintain his position as president at Maintec computer service and sales company.

**George Furukawa** (BA '76 Mānoa), a Hawai'i freelance journalist, is part of a variety band named Fusion.

**Bill Goding** (AS '77 Leeward, BBA '80 Mānoa) is a Honolulu ocean lifeguard. He retired from the Air Force in 1997 after 20 years of service, and he swam from Moloka'i to O'ahu in September 2006.

**Wayne Hamano** (BBA '76 Mānoa) is a senior executive vice president, Bank of Hawai'i.

**Dean Hirata** (BBA '79 Mānoa) chairs the Audit Committee of Hoku Scientific, a Honolulu company developing clean energy technologies.

**Lizabeth Horii** (BEEd '79, MEd '82 Mānoa), teacher at Mililani Ike Elementary, was named Central District Teacher of the Year.





**Dennis Kawahara** (BBA '71 Mānoa) was promoted to vice president of financial services, Certified Management, Hawai'i.

**Tony Krieg** (BA '70, MPH '75 Mānoa) is CEO for Hale Makua, one of the oldest Medicare-certified home health agencies in Hawai'i.



**Sister Candida Oroc** (MEd '70 Mānoa) is the hospital chaplain at Hawai'i Medical Center East (formerly St. Francis Medical Center) in Liliha.

**Mitchell Otani** (BBA '76, PD '82, MEd '95 Mānoa) of Kāne'ohe Elementary School was named the Hawai'i 2007 National Distinguished Principal.

**Gregg Takayama** (BA '78 Mānoa) is director of communications for UH Mānoa. The former journalist and congressional press secretary most recently served as public relations director for UH's John A. Burns School of Medicine.



**Keith Tanaka** (BED '74, PD '77, JD '83 Mānoa) is a district court judge in the Second Circuit.

**Brian Taniguchi** (BA '73, JD '78 Mānoa) received the UH Mānoa Campus Center Board's Ellingson-Bitner award for outstanding individuals who advocate for student growth.

**Glenn Tomiyoshi** (BS '73 Mānoa) joined the UH Hilo Facilities Planning and Construction Office as project manager. He previously worked for the County of Hawai'i.

**Lloyd Van De Car** (BA '72, JD '77 Mānoa) is a district family court judge for the Third Circuit.

**Paul Yokota** (BBA '79 Mānoa) released his first CD, *Full Moon Eyes*, a collection of mostly original compositions.

## 1980s

**Marsha Anderson** (MBA '84 Mānoa) was named assistant director of foundation relations at California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks.

**Stewart Burley** (AAT '84, AS '86, AS '87 Kaua'i) retired from the Pacific Missile Range Facility at Barking Sands on Kaua'i and is pursuing a degree in business.

**Wendy Cook** (BFA '80 Mānoa) works for Honolulu executive search firm Inkinen & Associates.

**Harry Correa** (MPH '83 Mānoa), lifetime UHAA member, retired Navy chief and Pennsylvania Department of Corrections healthcare director, established residency in Mountain View, Hawai'i, with his wife Marie in January.

**Nelson Dang** (BBA '81 Mānoa) is vice president, Bank of Hawai'i asset management group.

**Kenya Dworkin** (AAT '85 Leeward, BA '86 Mānoa), associate professor of Hispanic studies at Carnegie Mellon University, edited *Spanish and Empire*, about the historical, linguistic and ideological legacy of the Spanish Empire.

**Earl Fry** (BBA '80 Mānoa) is executive vice president and chief financial officer of data integration company Informatica. He has also worked in financial management for Omnicell.com, C-ATS Software, Weitek Corporation and Ernst & Young.



**Gilbert Garcia** (BBA '88 Mānoa) is an attorney with West Coast law firm Gordon & Rees.

**Dean Hirabayashi** (BBA '83 Mānoa) joined American Savings Bank as a commercial real estate loan officer.

**Konrad Ikei** (BBA '89 Mānoa) is director of marketing for Roberts Hawai'i, responsible for developing marketing strategy and branding for company products and transportation services.



**Jean Ireton** (BBA '80 Hilo, JD '83 Mānoa) is deputy director of corrections for Hawai'i's Department of Public Safety. She gained experience as a prosecuting attorney and per diem judge.

**Chason Ishii** (BBA '84 Mānoa) is president of Coldwell Banker Pacific Properties. He previously served as an area office leader and executive vice president for sales. He has been a trustee with the Public Schools of Hawai'i Foundation and board member for the HUGS and DARE programs.



**Randy Iwashita** (BBA '87 Mānoa) was named controller and finance team leader at the University of Hawai'i Federal Credit Union.

**Elizabeth Kent** (JD '85 Mānoa) received the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Peacemaker Award, given by Honolulu's Church of the Crossroads.

**Rick Kersenbrock** (BA '83, JD '87 Mānoa) married Kitty Tam in April and was promoted to vice president/Los Angeles County manager for First American Title Company.

**Kurtis Kimura** (BBA '82 Mānoa) joined AXA Advisor's Honolulu branch as a financial professional.



## Calvin Nomiya

### Second chances

**UH degrees:** AA in liberal arts '74 Kapi'olani; BEd in secondary physical education '76, MEd in elementary curriculum and instruction '80 Mānoa

**Hometown:** Honolulu

**Career:** Principal of Pu'u'hale Elementary School

**Hobbies:** Spending time with his wife Charlene, golf, traveling

**Early job:** Stock boy at Shirokiya

**Military service:** Spent time in Iraq as a colonel in the Army Reserves

**Coaching experience:** High school wrestling 1972–84

**Fond memory of Kapi'olani:** "The cafeteria opened early. People like me and my classmate Thomas Murata could get something to eat and wait for classes."

As a principal, Calvin Nomiya understands the importance and value of quality education. He also knows what it is to struggle as a student. He started college without a real goal or direction, earned a 1.0 grade point average and left to join the Army Reserves. He returned to Kapi'olani in 1972, this time with the goal of becoming a high school coach.

Three decades later, he returned to campus once more—as the speaker at Kapi'olani's spring 2007 commencement. He recalled the nurturing environment and encouragement he received from Kapi'olani instructors and the ideas and the attitudes presented in Louise Yamamoto's Philosophy 100 class. "Mrs. Yamamoto taught me that there is more than just one venue for testing anything...that students do deserve a second chance," he told the graduates. "As a teacher, coach and administrator, I have used those lessons continuously."

—Heidi Sakuma



## Tyler Kali Yates

Persistent pitcher

**UH studies:** '95-'98 Hilo

**Team:** Atlanta Braves, 2-1 with a 3.99 ERA for 2007

**Hometown:** Kōloa, Kaua'i

**Family:** Wife Liezel; younger brother Spencer, a catcher, also played two years for the Vulcans

**High school honors:** Kaua'i Interscholastic Federation Baseball Player of the Year, All-State honorable mention in football

**T**yler Yates knows the ups and downs of professional baseball. His first go at the majors was with the New York Mets in 2004 after six years in the Oakland A's farm system. His time in "the show" didn't last long; he had arthroscopic surgery to repair a torn right rotator cuff in February 2005 and missed all of that season. "It makes you even more motivated to get back to the majors," he says of his lost season and year as a minor-league free agent with the Baltimore Orioles in 2006.

The 6-foot-4 right-hander joined the Atlanta Braves bullpen in May 2006. "I grew up watching the Braves on TV on TBS," he says. "I get a lot of fan support back home. They recognize me (from TV). It's unbelievable." He lives in Hawai'i during the off-season, paddling through waves and surfing to keep his arm strong. "I try to surf every day. When I was in the minors, I would surf in the morning, lift weights in the afternoon and then have to work at night," he says. Now he can pass on outside employment and have more time to train in the off-season.

—David Driver

Send notes to [alumnihelp@uhf.hawaii.edu](mailto:alumnihelp@uhf.hawaii.edu)

**Victoria Kneubuhl** (MA '87 Mānoa), a Hawai'i playwright, won the 2007 Elliot Cades Award for Literature.

**Laura Kodama** (BS '80 Mānoa) is director of planning and development for Castle & Cooke Hawai'i Homes. She has twin 2-year-old sons.

**Dave Lawrence** (MBA '88 Mānoa) joined Outrigger Enterprises Group as senior vice president of operations.

**Vern Leaman** (BBA '87, MAcc '96 Mānoa) was promoted to Mililani branch manager, Charter Funding of Hawai'i.

**Holden Lim** (BBA '89 Mānoa) is director, Sonnenblick-Goldman San Francisco office.

**Judy Locke** (AAT '88 Maui; MEd '99 Mānoa) is Maui District Teacher of the Year. Nationally certified, she teaches third grade at Kīhei Elementary School and serves as lead teacher for the Maui Arts and Cultural Center.

**Tesha Malama** (BA '88 Mānoa) is the Kalaeloa director of planning and development at the Hawai'i Community Development Authority, charged with promoting public and private sector efforts. She has worked on issues from education to affordable housing on O'ahu's leeward side.

**Ted Y. Mashima** (BA '86 Mānoa) is president and executive director of the Asian & Pacific Islander American Scholarship Fund, a national organization devoted to providing scholarships for Asian and Pacific Islander Americans. The Rockville, Md., resident is a veterinarian and scientific author.

**Maeona Mendelson** (MSW '84, PhD '00 Mānoa), adjunct professor of human services at Hawai'i Pacific University, was named Social Worker of the Year in Gerontology by the Hawai'i Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers.

**Peter Nagata** (BBA '82 Mānoa) is vice president, First Hawaiian Bank real estate division.

**Gayle Pingree** (BBA '83, MBA '92 Mānoa) is vice president and area manager, First Hawaiian Bank Makiki and Ward branches.



**Cindi Quinn** (BA '83, JD '88 Mānoa; AS '85 Kapi'olani) is president of Make-A-Wish Hawai'i.

**Jeff Sakamoto** (BBA '89 Mānoa) is vice president and team leader at First Hawaiian Bank's University branch.

**Sandra Sakka** (BBA '84, MAcc '86 Mānoa) is controller for Outrigger Embassy Suites Hotel—Waikiki Beach Walk.

**Bryan Shigezawa** (BBA '84 Mānoa) was promoted to senior vice president, First Hawaiian Bank treasury and investment division.

**Kenneth Silva** (BA '89 West O'ahu; MPA '01 Mānoa) is Honolulu fire chief. He is known for leadership by example and development of a strategic plan for the Fire Department.

**Sneha Sood** (BA '80 Hilo; MD '85 Mānoa) is working to set up a nursing program in Hilo to provide neonatal care for newborns.

**Dean Tamanaha** (BBA '80 Mānoa) is assistant vice president and asset/liability manager of Central Pacific Bank.

**Colleen Tanioka** (BBA '81 Mānoa) joined Outrigger Embassy Suites Hotel—Waikiki Beach Walk as human resources manager.

**Lynne Unemori** (BBA '81 Mānoa) is vice president of corporate relations at Hawaiian Electric Company.

**Teri Ushijima** (BED '85, MLISC '90 Mānoa), principal at Mokulele Elementary School on Hickam Air Force Base, received the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award.

**Niti Villinger** (BA '88 Mānoa) teaches international business management at Hawai'i Pacific University. She used her second Fulbright Award grant to learn about Germany and the European Union during the summer.

**Sam Wides** (BBA '87 Mānoa) is operations manager for Aquatic Commercial Solutions in San Antonio, Texas.

**Lance Wilhelm** (BA '87 Mānoa) was elected to the UH Foundation Board of Trustees.

He is senior vice president and Hawai'i area manager for general contractor Kiewit Building Group. The Kamehameha graduate is active in business and community organizations.

**Edsel Yamada** (JD '85 Mānoa) joined Lane Ishida to form the law firm Ishida & Yamada.



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**Clinton Yee** (BBA '86, MAcc '87 Mānoa) was named controller at the Queen's Medical Center.

## 1990s

**Tori Abe** (BA '95 Mānoa) is vice president of marketing and business development at Hawai'i Pacific Entertainment.

**Lynn Araki-Regan** (JD '95 Mānoa), an attorney on Maui, was named *Pacific Business News* Woman Community Leader of the Year.

**Stacey Arashiro** (BBA '91 Mānoa) is assistant vice president and senior trust auditor in the audit division of First Hawaiian Bank.

**Deanna Awa** (BBA '92 Mānoa) was promoted to senior manager for tax compliance and advisory services, KMH, Hawai'i.

**Darlene Blakeney** (MBA '96 Mānoa) is director of finance and operations at Hanahau'oli School in Honolulu.

**S. Kalani Bush** (JD '90 Mānoa) is a partner in Reinwald, O'Connor & Playdon, Hawai'i.

**Lynn Fujiwara** (BBA '90 Mānoa), audit supervisor at Community Bank of Nevada, earned her Certified Financial Service Auditor designation.

**Carrie Hasegawa** (BBA '93 Mānoa) is assistant vice president, First Hawaiian Bank marketing communications division.

**Amy Hennessey** (BA '96 Mānoa), a vice president at McNeil Wilson, was recognized as a *Pacific Business News* Forty Under 40. She serves as a mentor to students.

**Paul Ito** (BBA '92 Mānoa) was promoted to vice president, controller and assistant treasurer, Alexander & Baldwin, Hawai'i.

**Ryan Iwane** (BBA '97 Mānoa) was promoted to senior audit manager, Nishihama & Kishida, CPAs, Honolulu.

**Ashley Ji** (BBA '93 Mānoa) was promoted to assistant vice president and investment consultant, Central Pacific Bank.

**Diana Kahler** (BA '96 Hilo) coordinates services for special-needs children enrolled in Head Start in Hawai'i County and was a *Pacific Business News* Woman Community Leader of the Year finalist.

**Shari (Miyashiro) Kaneshiro** (BEd '92, PDE '94 Mānoa) received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching.

**Billy Kenoi** (JD '96 Mānoa) is executive assistant to Big Island Mayor Harry Kim.

**Seila Kim** (BBA '98 Mānoa) joined the sales team at First Magnus Financial Corporation.

**Burton Kong** (BA '92 Mānoa) is the marketing projects manager at Outrigger Enterprise Group, a family-owned hospitality services



company operating properties in Hawai'i and the Pacific.

**Rommel Marzan** (BBA '98 Mānoa) is tax manager, Nishihama & Kishida, Honolulu.

**John Mizukami** (CA '99 Maui) is a chef at The French Laundry restaurant in Napa Valley, Calif.

**Neil Murakami** (BBA '93 Mānoa) is assistant general manager of Waikiki Beach Walk.

**Jami Muranaka** (MEDT '97 Mānoa) was named Hawai'i State Teacher of the Year. The Kaimuki High School science teacher is nationally certified and mentors student teachers. She focuses on the three Rs—rigor, relevance and relationships.

**Alison (Ideta) Murata** (BA '95 Mānoa) joined ADM International, located in Honolulu, as owner/wellness coach.

**Richard Murphy** (BBA '95 Mānoa) is senior vice president and manager of retail credit at Bank of Hawai'i.

**JoAnn Nakamura** (BBA '94 Mānoa) was promoted to senior audit manager, Nishihama & Kishida, CPAs, Honolulu.

**Dee Okahara** (BA '95 Mānoa) returned to Aloha United Way as vice president of campaigns. She was a United Way assistant vice president before directing graduate admissions and marketing for Hawai'i Pacific University. Dee also serves on the board of directors of the Public Relations Society of America Hawai'i chapter.



**Kenji Saito** (BBA '98 Mānoa) is Maui branch manager, Meadow Gold Dairies.

**Dawn Sakaue** (BA '95 Mānoa) joined Honolulu's Aqua Palms and Spa as guest services manager.

**Michael Scully** (BBA '91, MBA '94 Mānoa) is chef instructor for the Culinary Arts Program at Leeward CC.

**R. Scott Simon** (JD '98 Mānoa) is the associate general counsel of Hawaiian Electric Company.

**Kapua Sproat** (JD '98 Mānoa) is counsel for the environmental legal group Earth Justice and part of the UH Environmental Law Program.

**Kevin Stuart** (PhD '96 Mānoa) has taught English in Xining, capital of Northwest China's Qinghai Province, since 1987.

**Allison Takeshita** (MBA '97 Mānoa) is head of Grumpy Girl Clothing, a line of women's clothes and accessories featuring a drawing of a girl who looks like she's being force-fed medicine.

**Gordon Tom** (BBA '99, MAcc '00 Mānoa) was promoted to manager of assurance and advisory services, KHM, Honolulu.



## Dana Hauanio

### Boosting Hawaiian business

**Career:** Director of the Honolulu Minority Business Enterprise Center

**UH degrees:** BBA '94 in finance and international business, Mānoa

**Roots:** Honolulu

**Early Job:** Management trainee, Bank of Hawai'i

**Family:** Husband Alan K. Lore, daughter Anuhea, pet black Labrador Ka'ua

**Hobbies:** Reading, beading, surfing

In her mission to promote and support minority-owned business enterprises, Dana Hauanio seeks to generate long-term economic impact for the community through the creation of revenues and jobs. She is well qualified to provide technical assistance—she worked in San Francisco at a national bank and as a commercial underwriter before returning to Hawai'i as a business loan officer for the Native Hawaiian Revolving Loan Fund. That role introduced her to the Honolulu Minority Business Enterprise Center.

Hauanio also serves on the boards of the Native Hawaiian Chamber of Commerce and Hale Ku'ai Cooperative and sits on the Council of Hawaiian Representatives of the Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association, all with an eye to promoting Native Hawaiians' interest in economic development.

"Over the last 12 years, I've used theories and principles learned at the Mānoa College of Business Administration (now called Shidler College of Business) to further my understanding and assistance to small businesses in the community," she says. More about the Honolulu Minority Business Enterprise Center at [www.honolulu-mbdc.org](http://www.honolulu-mbdc.org) or call at 808 956-0850.

—Heidi Sakuma

**Soon Beng Yeap** (MA '90, MA '92, PhD '92 Mānoa), professor and director of the Center for Strategic Communications, has been named assistant vice president of marketing and university communications at Seattle University.



## 2000S

**Jae Jin Byun** (PhD '01 Mānoa) was named Korea's minister health and welfare.

**Ying Yan Chen** (BBA '03 Mānoa) was promoted to tax supervisor at Nishihama & Kishida, CPAs, Honolulu.

**Arnold Cristobal** (BBA '00 West O'ahu) joined Kaiser Permanente's Health Connect National Finance Team in Oakland, Calif.

**Keonilei Ku'uwehiokala Kaniaupio Fairbanks** (BA '05 Mānoa) was named Miss Aloha Hula 2007 at the Merrie Monarch Festival.

**Daven Hee** (BFA '00 Mānoa) teaches ceramics for UH, Mid-Pacific Institute and the Hawai'i Potters Guild. He has made Japanese wabi sabi pots since 1995.

**Jennifer Hee** (AAT '00 Kapi'olani; BA '02 Mānoa) is the director of development for the UH Foundation at the William S. Richardson School of Law.

**Mona Hirata** (MBA '03 Mānoa), president and owner of Weddings By Grace and Mona, was selected as one of *Pacific Business News*' Forty under 40. Hirata co-founded the wedding planning and events coordination company seven years ago.

**David Hoffman** (CC '03, AA '04 Kapi'olani) is a chef at the new East-West-influenced Restaurant Epic in downtown Honolulu. He gained experience at Roy's.

**Brett Kewish** (MED '03 Mānoa), seventh grade science teacher at Kahuku High and Intermediate School, was named Hawai'i's Windward District Teacher of the Year.

**Courtney Koski** (BS '03 Mānoa) is hotel manager of the Aloha Surf Hotel in Honolulu.

**Jie Li** (MAcc '06 Mānoa) is audit supervisor, Nishihama & Kishida, CPAs, Honolulu.

**Eleanor Lin** (MBA '04 Mānoa) joined Avalon Development Company as a real estate analyst.

**Jim Maskrey** (MBA '00 Mānoa) joined Sopogy, a Honolulu-based solar power technology firm, as vice president of sales and business development.

**Collin Miyamoto** (MBA '01 Mānoa) is vice president of acquisition and analysis, Avalon Development Company, Honolulu.

**Jonathan Nakamoto** (BBA '05 Mānoa) joined New York Life Insurance's Honolulu general office as an agent.

**Grant Oka** (BEd '02 Mānoa) creates glass etchings with Asian flair for Oka Etchworks. He also sells his work through Nohea Gallery in Ward Warehouse.

**Amber Mui Fah Stierli** (BA '03 Mānoa) is the editor of *Undrawn Lines*, a collection of short fiction by Hawai'i-based writers.

**Bunmei Taguchi** (PhD '06 Mānoa) is a scientist at the JAMSTEC Earth Simulator Center in Japan.

**Lee Tokuhara** (MBA '05 Mānoa) is senior account director, Bennett Group, New York.

**Barry Toyama** (BA '00 Mānoa) founded Tactical Strength & Conditioning. The Honolulu business trains athletes to perform to their fullest.

**Tam Vu** (MA '04, PhD '06 Mānoa) is an assistant professor of economics at UH Hilo's College of Business and Economics, teaching macroeconomics and economic development.

**Heather Yap** (BS '06 Mānoa) joined the Sheraton Maui as a management trainee.

**Mika Yasunaga** (BBA '06 Mānoa) was hired as associate coordinator at Weddings by Grace and Mona, a wedding planning and coordination company in Honolulu.

**Lai Ieng Yee** (BBA '04 Mānoa) was promoted to tax senior, Nishihama & Kishida CPAs, Honolulu.

**Kini Zamora** (AAS '03, CA '03, CC '03 Honolulu) attended the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York. He showed some of his designs at the Aloha Stadium Swap Meet on Mother's Day.

**Tal Ziv** (MBA '05 Mānoa) was named business development manager for GE in Atlanta, Ga.



## IN MEMORY

**Peter Aduja** (BA '44 Mānoa), died Feb. 19 in Las Vegas. He was an attorney, politician, community volunteer and role model for Filipino immigrants. Mr. Aduja came to Hawai'i in 1928 and grew up in Hakalau on the Big Island. In 1954 he became the first Filipino in Hawai'i to win a major elective post, serving in the Territorial House of Representatives as a Republican from Hilo.

**LeAnn Cragun** (BA '74, MA '76, PhD '81 Mānoa), a college teacher and administrator, died Jan. 10 at her home in Washington. She taught



in Germany, Belgium, Italy, London, Iceland, Japan and Okinawa. An avid skydiver, Ms. Cragun pursued her hobby wherever she lived.

**Ronald Hall** (BA '87 Mānoa), former UH tight end, died May 19. He was a fourth-round draft pick by Tampa Bay in 1987 and played for the Buccaneers for seven seasons. He also played for the Detroit Lions for two seasons.

**Donald Tai Loy Ho** (BA '54 Mānoa), better known simply as Don Ho, died in Honolulu April 14 at age 76. He was known worldwide for "Tiny Bubbles," "I'll Remember You,"

"Hawaiian Wedding Song" and other hits and offstage for his generosity. In 2001 "Don Ho's Greatest Hits" became the first record by a Hawai'i artist to be certified "gold" by the Record Industry Association of America. He was recognized in 2006 by the City and County of Honolulu for his contributions to the state's music industry, and his career, including a 1970s TV show and 43 years as a Waikiki headliner, and he is credited with boosting tourism.

**Thomas Kaulukukui** (BEd '38, PD '39, MED '41 Mānoa), the first UH football player to earn All-American honors, died March 9 at his daughter's home. He was selected to the All-American Board of

Football team in 1935, and his 103-yard kickoff return against UCLA that year remains a school record. Mr. Kaulukukui served as a coach and athletic director at UH, coached at 'Iolani, helped found Pop Warner football in Hawai'i and served on the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

**Dando Lee Kluever** (BA '74, MFA '79 Mānoa) died Sept. 7, 2006, in Orlando, Fla. He was an actor or director for nearly every theatre on O'ahu, including Kumu Kahua, HTY and HPAC, and he taught in many high schools and colleges in Hawai'i. Mr. Kluever received the award for Outstanding Stage Actor from the National Society of Arts and Letters in 1973 and two Po'okela awards for acting excellence.

**John Mau** (BEd '69 Mānoa) died April 17 surrounded by family and friends. An athlete all his life, he received the first scholarship in the history of UH men's volleyball.

**Michael Naai** (MD '82 Mānoa) died in Woodville, Wash., on Feb. 3.

**Togo Nakagawa** (BBA '63 Mānoa), a member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, died May 15. He earned a reputation for fairness and decency and put work and family above himself. Admitted to the Hawai'i bar in 1968, Mr. Nakagawa served as a city prosecutor and state judge.







## Athletes Gain from Academic Strength Training

by Jeela Ongley

Adjusting to college classes, dorm life and homework can be a trial for any student. Newfound freedom, social opportunities and being away from home—in some cases, far away from home—can increase the stress. For student-athletes, the pressure is even higher, with training, practice, travel and competition added into the mix.

Enter the advisors, mentors, graduate assistants and tutors who serve as academic coaches.

Mānoa Student Athlete Academic Services Program Director Jennifer Matsuda knows how exhausting road trips can be; she has traveled with the men's basketball team, supervising study halls, proctoring exams and tutoring athletes. "There is never a direct flight to some of the places where we compete, like Moscow, Idaho. After several plane and bus rides, we're jetlagged, it's winter and there is a full schedule of study hall, practice and games. Not to say that it's not fun, but it takes a lot out of you."



**Jennifer Matsuda**

Denise Abara, a former Rainbow Wāhine soccer player, joined the staff as a graduate assistant nine years ago. She is now one of seven advisors who are assigned to specific teams and have additional areas of program responsibility. She advises diving, golf, soccer, softball and swimming plus oversees the complexities of academic eligibility for all athletes. "We develop relationships with the coaches and the players that last for years," she explains. "If you have a good team, the players trust the coach and vice versa. The same is true academically, trust is all-important."

Student-athletes can request help from academic tutors in any subject at any time. The Nagatani Academic Center adjacent to Mānoa's Stan Sheriff Arena also offers mentoring to develop good academic reflexes—honing skills in time management, studying, note-taking and reading. For Courtney Tsumoto (BA Mānoa '05), a student job as a tutor lead her to pursue graduate studies in educational psychology that complement her work as a mentor and tutorial coordinator. Some students go from overwhelmed to self-sufficient, she observes. "When they get the basics, they're fine."

The staff emphasizes the importance of school. "Athletes who make it professionally are glorified, but you don't hear much about the ones who don't," says graduate assistant Sachi Lamb. "Their families say 'I know you can.' Coaches say 'I know you can.' We want to be supportive but at the same time say, 'You have to have a backup plan.'"

For years academic services for UH Hilo student-athletes were handled informally and on a volunteer basis. With the number of athletes increasing—up to 200 in 2007—the campus refitted a storage room as a computer lab open for study hall all day and some evenings. Lead by Assistant Athletic Director and former student athlete Gwen Kagaoan, Hilo staff run study halls for student-athletes, do grade checks, liaise with professors and provide academic counseling. Kagaoan, who also helps coach Vulcans softball, celebrates students' academic achievements. "One athlete was an average student, about a 2.0 or 2.5 GPA. She came to us and applied herself and in one semester made a 3.6 and got onto the dean's list," says Kagaoan. "Seeing students get excited about doing well in school is great. It's really fun to show them it can be done." 📖

Jeela Ongley (BA '97 Mānoa) is web content coordinator in External Affairs and University Relations



Pins and hairpins from the Shyn Collection, San Francisco  
Excelling the Work of Heaven: Personal Adornment from China  
Mānoa Assistant Professor of Art Kate Lingley, exhibition curator

The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Art Gallery will feature Chinese jewelry, needle cases and other adornments crafted primarily during the Qing (1644–1911) dynasty for the imperial court and aristocracy. The exhibition includes more than 700 works in a variety of materials, from gold and silver to coral and jade to wood and kingfisher feathers. In the accompanying exhibit catalog, curator Lingley describes the transformation of language from verbal to visual as well as the cultural and personal significance of each object.

Oct 28–Dec. 14, [www.hawaii.edu/artgallery](http://www.hawaii.edu/artgallery) or 808 956-6888



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**– Sir Winston Churchill**



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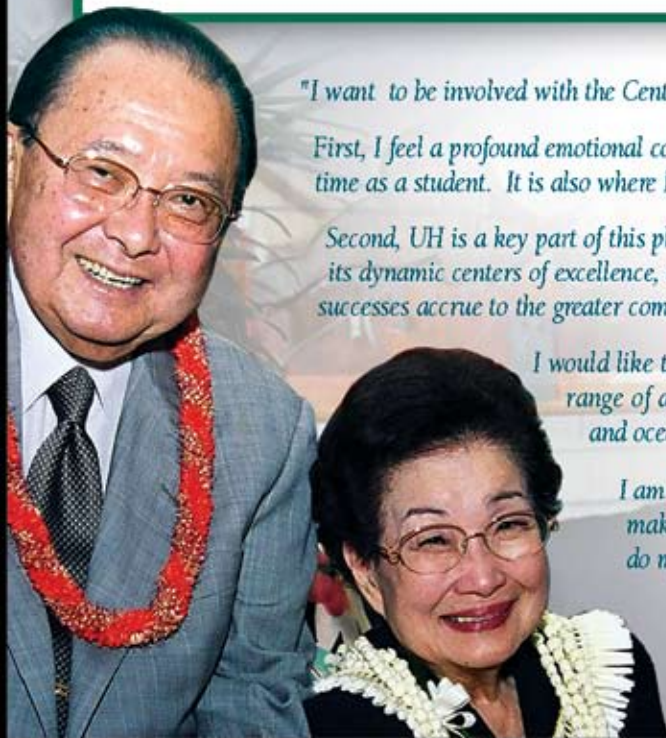
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*"I want to be involved with the Centennial Campaign for two reasons.*

*First, I feel a profound emotional connection to the University of Hawai'i. This stems in part from my time as a student. It is also where I met my wife, Maggie, who was on the faculty.*

*Second, UH is a key part of this place we call Hawai'i. I want to do my part to see that UH builds on its dynamic centers of excellence, and reaches its full potential throughout the ten campuses. Its successes accrue to the greater community.*

*I would like to tell my friends and colleagues that UH is number one in a range of academic fields, like astronomy and oceanography.*

*I am ready to work with you to make this happen. I am ready to do my part."*

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Senator Daniel Inouye



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